FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 236 *7 December 1978*

ARGENTINA

Foreign Minister on River Projects, Border Dispute B 1

BOLIVIA

Finance Minister Says Economy Stable C 1
Housing Minister Replaced; Salomon To Take Post C 1
[EL DIARIO 27 Nov]
Joint Talks Begin With Peruvian Armed Forces C 1

BRAZIL

Joint Communique on Visit of Argentine Economy Minister D 1
Presidency Has No Comment on Kidnaping D 1

CHILE

President Pinochet Denounces Boycott in Rally Speech E 1
Visiting Guatemalan Vice President Laments Boycott E 4
EL MERCURIO Calls for Decentralized Economy E 4
Cubillos Assails Argentine News Reports E 5
Residence of Deputy Education Minister Bombed E 5
Briefs: Chilean-French Cooperation; Political Prisoner Released E 5

COLOMBIA

University Students Clash With Army in Bogota F 1
Turbay Congratulates Venezuela's Perez on Elections F 1
Perez, Herrera To Pay Visit F 1

VENEZUELA

Supreme Electoral Council Releases Bulletin No 10 L 1
Pinerua Sends Congratulatory Telegram to Herrera L 1
Costa Rican Station Interviews President-elect Herrera L 1
Herrera Promises To Strengthen Relations With Brazil L 3
[Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL 5 Dec]
Briefs: Agreement on Drug Trafficking; Sugar Imports for 1979 L 3

PANAMA

FSLN Leader Pastora To Expand Contacts With Press N 1
Information Conference Denounces Foreign News Agencies N 1
Liberal Party President Samudio Outlines Ideology N 1
[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 2 Dec]
Organization's Advertisement Warns Against Communism N 3
[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 1 Dec]

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

President Investigates Reports on Guerrilla Camps P 1
Public Security Officials Depart for Canal Zone P 1
Civil Guard Placed on 'Maximum' Alert P 1

EL SALVADOR

FARN Demands Publication of Manifesto in English P 2

GUATEMALA

Lawyer Shot To Death in Capital City P 3

HONDURAS

Number of Nicaraguan Refugees Decreases P 3
PLH Supports Registration of Christian Democrats P 3
President: Country Will Return to Constitutional Order P 3

NICARAGUA

FSLN Faction Says People's War Only Solution to Crisis P 4
National Guard Spokesman Denies Reports of Mercenaries P 4
Bombs Explode at Coffee Installations in Carazo P 5
Fighting Reported in Various Parts of Country P 5
FAO Responds to Latest Mediation Proposal P 5
Sandinist Proletarian Faction Opposes Plebiscite P 6
Somoza Raps 'Human Rights' Concept P 7
Ernesto Cardenal Views U.S. Plans for Intervention P 8

CUBA

Castro Marks Builders' Day at Cienfuegos Power Plant Q 1
Report on Event Q 1
Address by Fidel Castro Q 1
Later Report on Castro Q 9
Revolutionary Armed Forces Observe Builders' Day Q 10
CEMA Nonferrous Metallurgy Commission Proceedings Open Q 10
Further Reportage Q 11
Additional Details Q 11
Raul Castro Receives Message From Soviet Defense Minister Q 12
USSR Fish Industry Representative Visits Batabano Q 12
Meeting With USSR on Nickel Industry Ends Q 12
Soviet Official Tours Matanzas Government Offices Q 12
Pineiro Receives Delegation of North American Indians Q 13
Cape Verde Minister Vieira Concludes Visit Q 13
Hungarian Workers' Militia Delegation Visits Steel Plant Q 13
Reception of Iraqi Delegation by Rodriguez Reported Q 13

OTHER COUNTRIES

ECUADOR

Ballen, Roldos Interrupt Foreign Tours, Return Home V 1
Electoral Tribunal Passes Decision on to Government V 1
Roldos Claims Sabotage V 2
Government Resolves Problem V 2

GUYANA

CARICOM Council of Ministers Ends Its Meeting [Havana] V 3
Three-Member Cambodian Mission Arrives in Georgetown V 3

MEXICO

Cuban Ambassador Denies Report of Arms to Sandinists V 3
Brazilian Industry, Commerce Minister Arrives V 3

PARAGUAY

Police Release Two More Political Prisoners V 4
[Asuncion HOY 30 Nov]
Briefs: Agreements Signed; Japanese Loan V 4

FOREIGN MINISTER ON RIVER PROJECTS, BORDER DISPUTE

PY0617●1Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0044 GMT 6 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Punta del Este, Uruguay, 5 Dec (AFP)--The problem of exploiting the waters of the Parana River is now basically of a political nature, and we hope to be able to establish the bases for an agreement before leaving Punta del Este. This statement was made by Argentine Foreign Minister Carlos Pastor during an interview with AFP. The minister stated: The future of these projects (the Itaipu dam built by Paraguay and Brazil and the Corpus dam, an Argentine-Paraguay project) is of such importance in the geopolitical aspect that it requires the understanding and consent of our governments. He then added, "I am confident that there will be a solution."

Asked if Argentina is willing to resume the dialog proposed by Brazil, and under what conditions, the minister answered: "No firm proposal to resume talks will be discouraged by Argentina, which has always repeatedly shown its willingness to negotiate." "In any case," he added, "our position is already well known by Brazil and Paraguay. We believe that a formula should be found to reestablish the balance we had already reached in the negotiations a short time ago."

Asked if the abandonment of the Corpus project could be considered a real possibility, Pastor answered: "Corpus is a priority project within the national energy program, but its realization will depend on the achievement of the conditions necessary to make it advisable." In view of the possibility that Paraguay may decide to build Corpus alone, as disclosed by Enzo Debernardi, who is in charge of the Paraguayan Government's energy policy, the Argentine foreign minister stated: "Our goal is to reach an agreement which would provide for an adequate exploitation of the Corpus project. We have never thought of abandoning it. The question, therefore, does not reflect the real situation. It would be like imagining that Argentina would build Corpus by itself."

With respect to the Chilean-Argentine border dispute in the Beagle Channel, Minister Pastor spoke about the meeting he will hold on 12 December with his Chilean colleague, Hernan Cubillos. With respect to this, he stated: "I hope, as I always have, to be able to establish the basis for an understanding which would lead us to a definite solution of the matter. The selection of a friendly government which, within the framework of the negotiations already underway, would aid the parties, and the effects and mechanisms of this aid will be subjects to consider with Foreign Minister Cubillos."

The Argentine minister confirmed that the selection of the pope as a mediator is a possibility, but there are also others. With regard to the role to be played by such a mediator, the Argentine foreign minister stated: "The friendly government which we choose by common agreement should guide the parties in the search for a solution, coordinating the positions studied and developed with regard to the pending issues during the course of the negotiations of the second joint commission established by the Puerto Montt act."

Finally, he was asked if Argentina would feel obliged to observe the conclusions of the mediator. Foreign Minister Pastor emphasized: "As I have already said, Argentina has accepted the aid of a friendly government in these negotiations. The effects and mechanisms of this aid will be the subjects of my meeting with Foreign Minister Cubillos. The government which will act as the mediator should help the parties to seek a solution. The final solution should, of course, be the result of a direct agreement between the two countries."

FINANCE MINISTER SAYS ECONOMY STABLE

PY280055Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Nov 78 PY

[Excerpts] New Finance Minister Wenceslao Alba assured that there would be no devaluation of the Bolivian peso and that the country's economic stability will be maintained. However, he did recognize that the economic situation is delicate, though not serious. He made these remarks just after being sworn in as finance minister.

[Begin Alba recording] I do not see any need for a devaluation. I have been following the course of our economy's growth, and I see no need for this measure. [end recording]

He also stated that the economic situation is delicate but not serious, and that he does not support government control in this field.

HOUSING MINISTER REPLACED; SALOMON TO TAKE POST

PY011725Y La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 27 Nov 78 p 1 PY

[Excerpt] The government military junta headed by Gen David Padilla ordered a change in the cabinet last night. Col Norberto Salomon was appointed minister of urban development and housing, replacing Capt Alberto Saenz. Colonel Salomon will be installed today, along with the new finance minister, Wenceslao Alba. The information was released by the presidential press secretariat, but the reasons for the replacement of Capt Alberto Saenz were not given.

JOINT TALKS BEGIN WITH PERUVIAN ARMED FORCES

PY052032Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1719 GMT 5 Dec 78 PY

[Excerpt] Santa Cruz, 5 Dec (AFP)--Reliable sources indicated today that the armed forces of Peru and Bolivia, apart from those of Chile, began a bilateral meeting here to discuss the subject of security in the region and peace in the southern cone. The armed forces of Bolivia, Chile, and Peru have been holding annual meetings of that kind, but the current meeting is being held only with the armed forces of Bolivia and Peru, after the breaking of diplomatic relations between the governments of La Paz and Santiago on 17 March 1978.

The Bolivian delegation is headed by Gen Antonio Rojas, chief of the armed forces' joint command. The other members include Colonels Ruben Rocha, Mario Vargas, Lucio Anez, Oscar Hinoja, and frigate Captain Anibal Gutierrez.

The Peruvian delegation is headed by Gen Ludwing Essenwanger, chief of the Peruvian Armed Forces joint staff, who is accompanied by Colonels Humberto Rojas and Alfonso Salas, and Captains Luis Murguia and Carlos Francia.

This is the second time in the last 4 years that a similar meeting has been held in this Bolivian city, located 1,000 km east of La Paz and 200 meters above sea level. Similar meetings were held in Lima and in Santiago de Chile. Gen Ramon Azero, commander in chief of the Bolivian Army, left La Paz for this city especially to preside over the inaugural session.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON VISIT OF ARGENTINE ECONOMY MINISTER

PY061241Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2100 GMT 5 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 5 Dec (TELAM)--The economy ministers of Argentina and Brazil, Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz and Mario Henrique Simonsen, respectively, have reasserted the existance of strong ties uniting the two nations, and consider all efforts which could strengthen bilateral relations to be of major importance. In a joint communique issued today in this capital city, they emphasized the need to broaden commercial exchanges between Brazil and Argentina to a degree compatible with the capacity of their economies, and agreed on the advisability of establishing means to stabilize commercial flow.

In order to achieve these goals, they agreed to create three work groups which would present concrete proposals for the achievement of these goals to the appropriate authorities. One is the financial work group to be composed of technical organizations from each country, which would analyze the possibility of implementing financial mechanisms designed to encourage bilateral trade, as well as support joint exports to third countries.

Another group is the commercial analysis group which would study present problems in bilateral commerce, draw up solutions on the basis of stable mechanisms which offer absolute security to the parties in their commercial transactions, and promote new mechanisms to allow for the growth of trade. It would also study the incorporation of new products.

The third group would study the present situation in order to expand transportation between Brazil and Argentina.

The ministers also agreed that ways to facilitate the transfer of technology should be examined, as well as the flow of capital investments between the two countries.

They also decided that in order to eliminate double taxation between the two countries, specialists in fiscal affairs from the Argentine Economy Ministry and members of the commission for international tax studies of the Brazilian Finance Ministry should meet in the near future to discuss the clauses that should be included in the regulations.

The two officials also analyzed the protectionist measures being implemented by developed nations which create so many difficulties for exports from developing nations. They exchanged opinions about the multinational trade negotiations which are being held in Geneva. In addition they reiterated the need to grant developing nations preferential treatment which would favor their efforts to expand exports.

Finally, the two ministers recognized the importance of resuming meetings of the special Argentine-Brazilian coordination commission.

PRESIDENCY HAS NO COMMENT ON KIDNAPING

PY050258Y Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 5 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia--In a statement to the press, presidntial spokesman Col Rubem Carlos Ludwig said that the presidency of the republic has nothing to say about the Uruguayan couple that was kidnaped in Porto Alegre. He noted that this case is being examined by police and diplomatic officials.

PRESIDENT PINOCHET DENOUNCES BOYCOTT IN RALLY SPEECH

PY070148Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2250 GMT 6 Dec 78 PY

[Speech by Chilean President Augusto Pinochet to rally gathered at Bulnes Plaza in Santiago--live]

[Text] Chilean men and women: A few days ago, as soon as the nation heard of the unjust decision of an inter-American union organization, ORIT [Regional Inter-American Labor Organization], to decree a boycott against Chile, the people began to close ranks--as they have always done in times of bitterness and hardship. Chile is again facing an intensified totalitarian aggression coordinated with traditional traitors. [cheers] Therefore, Chileans reacted immediately, [cheers] and a large group of union leaders spontaneously requested the government's authorization to express with full strength and great patriotism their strong rejection of this new intervention against our fatherland.

This afternoon, at this meeting which is quite moving because of the special circumstances in which it is being held; at this meeting in which our hearts are overwhelmed with patriotic spirit; at this time in which the people stand up in a challenging, dignified attitude; as president of the republic, I want to confirm [cheers] to you, first of all, that we will defend Chilean sovereignty and freedom at all cost. [cheers and applause]

Our fatherland has improved its image in the eyes of that part of the world in which freedom is both respected and cherished. We won our freedom at Rancagua, Chacabuco and Maipu; we also achieved our freedom on 11 September 1973, [cheers and applause] and we have been free for the past 5 years despite the unprecedented and most widespread international campaign ever organized against any country. We are free now and will continue to be free in the future because we are the heirs of a sacred, inalienable legacy. [applause]

Chile respects the freedom of other nations. We have steadily adhered to the principle of self-determination of all peoples; that is, that each country can and should decide its own destiny, based on its laws and its institutional system as it may deem appropriate. In today's world, however, this struggle for freedom faces harsh obstacles and challenges because powerful interests seek to disrupt freedom. We must add to this the action of a minority group of Chileans who are still unable to understand the deep-seated meaning of the 11 September pronouncement. [cheers and applause]

Fellow countrymen, why are they attacking us? The answer is very simple: Because we have rejected international communism, [cheers and applause] because we fight violence and terrorism, because we have granted land to peasants and thus relieved them of the oppression of government bureaucracy and the political maneuvers of ruling officials, because we have strengthened private property, because we have guaranteed the Chilean legal system, because we have raised our voice accusingly as a supreme testimony to expose international cowardice and indifference in relation to Cuba, the Soviet Union and its satellites, [cheers and applause] which allowed for the first time the entry of a UN commission [as heard].

It is because we are decisively advancing toward a new institutional system which is strongly based in the country's traditions, which is inspired by the principles of freedom and democracy; because we have respected until today those who are still standing in our way, showing incredible cynicism, whose names will go down in the black pages of our history. [applause and cheers]

It is because we are following the path of peace and law in our international relations; because although we are deprived of every form of aid, we are ultimately eradicating inflation and extreme poverty, and we are aiming at the full development of our economy.

In the labor sector, we seek to dignify the worker by recognizing his individuality, by giving him the possibility of freely choosing his way of life, independent of pressure groups.

Today, we can observe an (?unprecedented) fact: Never before in our history have there been more Chileans gathered in unions. This happens today because unions now seek true union goals and have not become instruments of groups to carry out political or violent actions, which have absolutely nothing to do with union activities. [applause]

Furthermore, they question or conceal government achievements in the social field, such as: The end of a union oligarchy created to satisfy ignoble appetites; the strengthening of the grassroots which turn them into (?feared) union representatives; the opening of international frontiers to the creative capacity of Chilean workers; the training of more than 150,000 workers through specialization scholarships granted by the national training system which was established by the government; the creation of a teaching career [carrera docente] which dignifies educators; the ending of irregular family allotments, which was promised so many times by demagogues and bad politicians, but which was never fulfilled; the ending of the hateful differences between worker and employer, which meant ending the differences in gratuities and vacations, among other benefits; the integral respect for all workers' genuine rights and achievements, which is the main principle on which the new law is based; the complete fulfillment of collective bargaining by enforcing harsh punishment on those who try to disavow the tripartite commissions, which establish the economic conditions and the working conditions in enterprises or industries with the objective of studying the eventual enforcement of more benefits in the periodic 3-month readjustments; allotments for working mothers; free meal allotments; and minimum wage earnings; [word indistinct] for unemployed public workers; extension of assistance pensions; expansion and improvement of the labor code regulating (?strikes) and massive dismissals; and salary readjustments three times a year.

Gentlemen: What I have just stated is practically a complete review of what this government has fulfilled and what it will continue to do to achieve the well-being of all Chilean workers who are the main body [applause, cheers] [word indistinct]. But I believe that the last drop which filled their glasses was our call for free, direct and secret union elections without the presence of pressures from sectors or small groups.

These recent labor measures are only a confirmation of the policy enforced by the supreme government since it assumed the leadership of the country and which is stated in the multiple documents approved over the last 5 years. They are the materialization of the objective of restoring the dignity of work and of workers. [applause, cheers] Here in Chile, the freedom to join unions is a natural projection of the right of men to associate, and only common good will determine its inappropriateness in certain activities. Furthermore, strict adherence to union activities will guarantee the freedom of these intermediate bodies. These laws constitute a genuine framework of free union activity for the first time in our history. An enterprise can now have one or more professional and industrial unions, thus guaranteeing the greatest freedom so that these may become federations or confederations.

The logical consequence of this complete freedom is that each worker has been given the power to decide whether to become a union member or not, thus it will be the workers themselves who will determine whether they pay a union fee. In the future it will be each worker who will decide for himself as to which federation or confederation he will join.

Workers, we Chileans are the fruit of severe and continuous tests--a people which has been molded in adversity. The nature which we love so much continuously places heavy challenges before us which, in addition to giving us vigor, makes us feel dignity and love for what is ours.

As for the threat of a boycott, with which they intend to threaten us today, far from making us cower, as they believe it does, we take it as another test given us by destiny, and we unite in order to face it with our usual decisiveness and devotion added to our ever-present valor. [applause, chants]

And this is why an old soldier tells you the Chile of today is the Chile of always, and today it lifts its face without being afraid to face those who, without having the right, intend to compromise Chile's independence and sovereignty, because we have won them and maintained them with our efforts and [word indistinct]. [applause, chants]

This is why, year after year, we very happily celebrate the victory of 11 September 1973. It is deeply Chilean and it is rooted in our history as a son is rooted in his family. It was the fruit of, and an answer to, (?national courage) and the armed forces and forces of order at that time said the same as they have always said, following an honorable tradition.

If there has been something strange in our history, it is precisely the tragic 1,000 days of the UP's [Popular Unity] Marxist regime, [boos, chants] which bruised and tried to break the roots of Chilean nationality in order to establish Soviet imperialism in this land. Those who listen to the lies which are emitted from this land show a great lack of knowledge of our nation. The enemies of Chile, spending large amounts of money, have disseminated abroad unrealistic reports in order to justify measures against our country.

Workers, the military government, over which I have the honor of presiding, has struggled and will continue to struggle, with or without (?the masses), with dignity and freedom. We will fully meet the vain attempts to separate us from our policy, as is always done by he who knows that reason and truth are in his favor, because he who acts in accordance with high principles need have no fear. Chile will not give up its country or its love for freedom. [applause, chants]

Chileans, the victory allegedly achieved by the campaign against Chile is not a victory. It indicates that they are playing their last cards. We must be vigilant because when a man or a group becomes desperate, he or it is capable of doing anything, and I must say that our enemies are desperate. [applause]

In view of this event [the boycott], our answer, first of all, is the unity of all Chileans, and with this unity, the necessary tranquillity--and Chile has given sufficient evidence of tranquillity--to face its serious problems. But let not this unity and tranquillity be confused with a climate of tolerance which might allow the unworthy action of groups or persons who do not hesitate to hurt, through calumny and insult, the nation which shelters them, because the weight of shame will invariably fall upon them. [applause]

I thanks all the citizens from the depth of my heart, as a Chilean, for this new expression of support for the government I am heading. This action strengthens my spirit, confirms the harmony of goals between the rulers and the people, and commits me to fully and frankly surrendering to the service of Chile and all Chileans. [applause, shouts]

Chileans, with that firm faith I raise my voice to God Almighty to grant us once more the strength to face this new challenge. I am certain that we will win, also allow many people blinded by hatred and despair to open their eyes and look toward the fatherland, where their songs want to live united and in freedom. [applause]

For the love of the fatherland, our freedom, our independence, let us repeat that slogan which unites us from Arica to the Antarctic, which allows us to live with brotherly love, and which is the symbol of our total commitment to the land of our birth, shouting with all our hearts: Long live Chile! [Viva Chile!] [applause, shouts]

VISITING GUATEMALAN VICE PRESIDENT LAMENTS BOYCOTT

PY0601257 Paris AFP in Spanish 0032 GMT 6 Dec 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 5 Dec (AFP)--Guatemalan Vice President Francisco Villagran today termed the boycott against Chile approved by a regional labor entity a unilateral measure. Villagran indicated that the measure will lead to a more complete analysis of the situation by the various American countries.

Villagran said: Countries do not depend only on their maritime trade but also on their air trade. In addition, there will be many union organizations which will not join this boycott.

Villagran is participating in this capital in a seminar organized by the Chilean Foreign Ministry, and today he met with Deputy Foreign Minister Enrique Valdes.

EL MERCURIO CALLS FOR DECENTRALIZED ECONOMY

PY0612007 Paris AFP in Spanish 0241 GMT 6 Dec 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 5 Dec (AFP)--EL MERCURIO stated today that the Chilean Government will have to implement a decentralized economy [economia de guerrilla] if the boycott ordered by the Regional Inter-American Labor Organization (ORIT) is enforced. EL MERCURIO stated in Wednesday's issue that the worst thing the country could do is to isolate itself, thus satisfying the wishes of its enemies. The newspaper commented that instead of implementing a war economy, which is designed for a totally different situation, a decentralized economy should be implemented.

In this regard, EL MERCURIO advises that the government should confront the measure with a decentralized economy in which the centralized, bureaucratic and guiding power should be replaced by many autonomous operating units, such as private enterprises. It also stated that it will be necessary to encourage the intelligent and bold actions of Chilean businessmen.

EL MERCURIO said the boycott will be a new stage of the liberating process. What is now needed is a decentralized economy that is free, detached and bold.

CUBILLOS ASSAILS ARGENTINE NEWS REPORTS

PY062216Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2036 GMT 6 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 6 Dec (AFP)--Commenting on Buenos Aires journalistic reports, Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos today said that we are already used to threats which come from Argentina.

Those reports suggest the possibility of Argentina taking possession of the southern Beagle Channel zone, which is the central point of Argentina's current border conflict with Chile.

Cubillos will meet on Tuesday with his Argentine counterpart, Carlos Washington Pastor, in Santiago to designate a mediator to solve the old problem.

The foreign minister told reporters here that these reports published by the newspaper LA OPINION of Buenos Aires "will not change our position on this subject."

The minister expressed hope that a solution will be reached, but declined to comment on the possible mediation of Pope John Paul II, also mentioned by some cable reports from Argentina.

RESIDENCE OF DEPUTY EDUCATION MINISTER BOMBED

PY061626Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1337 GMT 6 Dec 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 6 Dec (AFP)--The police have reported that a powerful bomb exploded today in the residence of the Chilean deputy minister of education, Alfredo Prieto, causing material damage but no personal injury.

The carabineros military police announced 3 days ago the creation of an antiterrorist brigade aimed at stopping this type of attack, which, according to a high police official, has only one organization behind it.

BRIEFS

CHILEAN-FRENCH COOPERATION--The governments of Chile and France signed a cooperation agreement in the geographical sciences. It includes exchange of information and technicians in the areas of geodesics and geophysics, cartographic techniques and photogrammetry. The programs will be carried out by the French National Geographic Institute and the Chilean Military Geographic Institute. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Dec 78 PY]

POLITICAL PRISONER RELEASED--Sociologist (Roberto Eduardo Tapiarini), the last of the political prisoners arrested on 11 September 1973 and sentenced to 8 years in prison, has been released after his sentence was commuted under the condition that he leave the country. (Tapiarini) left the Valparaiso prison and immediately flew to London to join his family. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 6 Dec 78 PY]

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS CLASH WITH ARMY IN BOGOTA

PA062011Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1938 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 6 Dec (AFP)--Violent clashes occurred here today between soldiers and university students who were holding demonstrations to mark the 50th anniversary of the slaughter of Colombian banana workers.

According to witnesses, the clashes took place at the National University in northwest Bogota. The students threw stones and pebbles at the soldiers. Military reinforcements have been sent to the site of the disturbances.

TURBAY CONGRATULATES VENEZUELA'S PEREZ ON ELECTIONS

PA051435Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala congratulated Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez today on Sunday's elections, which he described as a splendid democratic debate. The Colombian president sent a warm message to Perez which began with the greeting "Dear President."

Turbay Ayala stated that Venezuela has confirmed its unalterable republican spirit. The president said that Venezuela has won the admiration of the countries which consider elections the best way to choose their presidents and legislators. The message added: The debate in which a candidate who was not of your party won the elections highlights your continental prestige and proves the honesty of the elections in which Dr Herrera Campins won an honorable victory.

Turbay Ayala indicated that Perez has always been a loyal supporter of harmony of understanding in relations between Colombia and Venezuela. I am sure that the government of your distinguished successor will continue that same policy, Turbay Ayala added.

During the past few months, Turbay Ayala and Perez, the only two civilian presidents of South America, have been struggling jointly in defense of human rights on the continent.

Perez, Herrera To Pay Visit

PA061410Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Venezuelan Embassy has confirmed that outgoing Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and President-elect Luis Herrera will visit Colombia next year. A spokesman said that they will meet with President Turbay Ayala within the framework of what will apparently be the beginning of a definitive round of talks to solve the dispute over marine and submarine areas.

Carlos Andres Perez and Luis Herrera will stay in Bogota for 2 days during the second week of January. Prior to their visit, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi will arrive in the country to sign with his Colombian counterpart, Diego Uribe Vargas, an agreement dealing with the struggle against drug trafficking in the two countries.

Venezuelan Ambassador to Colombia Guido Groscoors will arrive in Colombia during the next few hours after having voted in Venezuela. He will give additional details, the embassy spokesman said.

SUPREME ELECTORAL COUNCIL RELEASES BULLETIN NO 10

PA861522Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] According to the Supreme Electoral Council, 74.53 percent of the votes of the recent election have been counted. Luis Herrera Campins' victory seems certain as the top electoral organization announced bulletin No 10 with a total of 4,638,772 votes counted. Up to now, the Social Christian Party candidate has received a total of 2,121,939 votes. Luis Pinerua Ordaz has received 1,958,942 votes and Jose Vicente Rangel 233,627 votes.

PINERUA SENDS CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM TO HERRERA

PA061523Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Luis Pinerua Ordaz has publicly recognized Luis Herrera Campins' victory. The Democratic Action candidate sent a congratulatory telegram on Herrera's election as the new president of the republic. In a terse message, he states: Receive my congratulations on your election. Sincerely, Luis Pinerua Ordaz. Senators (Moises) Barrios and Alejandro Izaguirre gave a copy of the telegram to newsmen.

COSTA RICAN STATION INTERVIEWS PRESIDENT-ELECT HERRERA

PA061749Y San Jose Radio Monumental in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Dec 78 PA

[Telephone interview with Venezuelan President-Elect Luis Herrera Campins by Eduardo Enrique Leiva--presumably recorded; date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] How will relations between Venezuela and Costa Rica be after March 1979, when you, Dr Herrera, will assume power in Venezuela?

[Answer] Venezuela and Costa Rica have always maintained magnificent diplomatic relations, and I hope that during my 5-year term as president these relations will be diversified and strengthened so that they will be even closer. Moreover, there is the circumstance that Costa Rica and Venezuela have democratic governments and, consequently, they see eye to eye in the struggle to guarantee enforcement of human rights in all countries of the continent. Of course, this leads us to coincide greatly on international matters. During the recent events in Central America, we, who have a clear-cut attitude of supporting democracy, expressed a great solidarity with the Costa Rican people and government during such a critical moment.

Besides, there is an added circumstance opening the way to an optimistic outlook about the friendship between our new government and the Costa Rican Government. It is the friendship between President Rodrigo Carazo and myself. In addition, we draw inspiration for our political thinking from the same source, that is, Christian democracy, which is social Christian. Therefore, if we add to these facts the traditional friendship, bonds and high esteem shared by Venezuela and Costa Rica, we can really see a very bright panorama in regard to our international relations.

[Question] What would your attitude be as constitutional president if Costa Rica had to ask for help from Venezuela in the event of an armed attack by Somoza's forces?

[Answer] (?I hope) this situation will never arise in Costa Rica or in any other Latin American country. Now then, Costa Rica may rest assured, not that it will not be an orphan [as heard], because we are not really the parents but brothers of that great nation, [words indistinct] it will have our fraternal solidarity.

[Question] What will your attitude be toward Somoza during your tenure as president of Venezuela?

[Answer] I do not want to raise hypotheses about which I would have to give an opinion, in a future sense, like a prognostication. As a democrat, I have always maintained a clear line of struggle for democracy throughout the continent. I have been secretary general of the Christian Democratic Organization of America [ORCA] for 10 years, and in that position I have expressed my personal solidarity as well as that of ODCA and the Social Christian Party [COPEI] with the struggle against dictatorships. Naturally, my country, which accepts political pluralism and declares so internationally, maintains relations with all Latin American governments, always provided, of course, that the situation is a dignified and honorable one from an international standpoint, without, for this reason, passing any judgment about each one of the governments with which it maintains relations. I am one of those who holds an optimistic view about democracy in Central America and throughout the continent.

[Question] What is the significance for Latin America of such a radical shift in Venezuela's domestic policy at a time when it holds oil, an essential resource for the development of Third World countries, in its hands?

[Answer] This victory must not be viewed as a reason for concern but, on the contrary, as a reason for consolidating the search for Latin America's integration and cooperation with the subregional steps that have been taken in that direction.

I have been a leader of COPEI for many years and, as I said before, a leader, as secretary general, of ODCA for 10 years. Therefore, I am absolutely in agreement with the trend toward continental integration. In regard to my foreign policy, I will expand relations with the remaining Latin American countries, not only in the economic field--which is undeniably very important--or in the political field only--especially in the field of defense of human rights--but also in the social and cultural fields which are, in my opinion, fundamental for a knowledge about and great rapprochement among our peoples.

[Question] Dr Herrera, do you believe that oil prices will increase, deeply harming the economy of the developing countries?

[Answer] It seems inevitable. Representatives of Arab countries, including Saudi Arabia, which carry the most weight in OPEC, have visited Venezuela in that connection. Of course, we are in a (?world) in which, because of the international manipulation of the dollar and international inflation, we regard an increase in oil prices as inevitable. However, we want this increase to occur without causing conflicts with the developed countries and without thwarting Third World countries' development possibilities. Venezuela has always made proposals of this kind, so this attitude is not only my attitude as president or that of my political party but [words indistinct].

HERRERA PROMISES TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL

PY062030Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 5 Dec 78 p 12 PY

[By special envoy Jose Neumanne Pinto]

[Excerpts] Caracas--Acclaimed and congratulated as Venezuelan president-elect, Luis Herrera Campins stated yesterday that not only his government but the entire Venezuelan nation would be more sympathetic toward a Brazilian Government whose policy would be one of democratic opening because he is convinced that "should Brazil chose to take that road, it would certainly help to install fully democratic political systems in other Latin American nations in a stronger and more decisive manner."

Herrera said he believes that "Brazil is a very active country with huge potential, a country whose presence in political, economic, social and cultural and technological circles cannot be ignored, not only by American nations but any other nation in the world."

Venezuela's virtual president-elect promised to strengthen and diversify relations between Venezuela and Brazil and also lamented that due to the efforts spent on his political campaign, which lasted 1 year, he has been unable to send a high-level mission made up of members of his team to Brazil in order to pave the way for more concrete contacts between the two countries.

According to Herrera, the key word for the next 5-year government term in Venezuela, at both domestic and foreign levels, will be "broadness." He promised that at the foreign level he will continue struggling for the installation of democratic regimes in Latin America, for regional integration from the economic point of view, and for the respect of human rights by his government. According to him, these were his guiding rules during his tenure as secretary general of the American Christian Democratic Organization (ODICA), a post he held for 10 years.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT ON DRUG TRAFFICKING--Caracas, 27 Nov (AFP)--Brazil and Venezuela today put into effect the friendship and cooperation agreement and the mutual assistance agreement to supress illegal drug trafficking which were signed by their respective governments on 17 November 1977. The exchange of notes took place at the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry between Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi and Brazilian Ambassador to Venezuela David Mota Silveira. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0205 GMT 28 Nov 78 PA]

SUGAR IMPORTS FOR 1979--Caracas, 23 Nov (LATIN)--Alberto Paparoni, president of the Venezuelan Sugar Centrals Development Corporation, announced here that Venezuela will have to import 300,000 tons of sugar from the Dominican Republic in 1979, having registered a deficit of 170,000 tons in its sugar production this year. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0239 GMT 24 Nov 78 PA]

FSLN LEADER PASTORA TO EXPAND CONTACTS WITH PRESS

PA011535Y Panama City Radio Hogar in Spanish 1230 GMT 1 Dec 78 PA

[From the Milciades Ortiz "Radioperiodico Conciencia" program]

[Text] I have been informed that Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] Commander Eden Pastora, himself, will contact certain Panamanian newsmen in order to increase Panamanian press coverage of the struggle against Somoza. Pastora a short time ago contacted the management of the CRITICA newspaper and congratulated it for its coverage of the anti-Somoza struggle. However, in the past few days a tendency to diminish the importance of the FSLN operations has been evident in the national press, and this worries Pastora, the well-known Commander Cero.

I was informed that Pastora is planning to talk with some important Panamanian newsmen during the next 24 hours for this purpose, which is very strategic in view of the offensive against Somoza which has just been suspended by the Sandinists.

INFORMATION CONFERENCE DENOUNCES FOREIGN NEW AGENCIES

PA070309Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Latin American communications experts who are meeting in Panama City denounced the misinformation of Western news agencies and asked UNESCO to prevent the development of an information monopoly. This was the principal subject discussed on the second day of the meeting of Latin American information researchers, held yesterday under UNESCO sponsorship.

Luis Anibal Gomez, director of the Venezuelan Communications Research Institute, said that ASSOCIATED PRESS, UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, REUTER and AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE distorted the reports on the previous government conference on information policy held in Costa Rica in 1976. The delegates rejected the proposals made by Antonio Ornes and James Canell, representatives of the INTER-AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION, who said that the responsibility for the lack of information rests with the governments and not with the mass information media.

LIBERAL PARTY PRESIDENT SAMUDIO OUTLINES IDEOLOGY

PA041738Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 2 Dec 78 p 37 PA

[Speech by Liberal Party President David Samudio at party dinner in Imperial Hotel in David on 25 November 1978]

[Excerpts] Gentlemen: Tonight we are holding a meeting of great political significance. We are meeting at the invitation of distinguished Liberals of Chiriqui Province at a time when we must make the important decision on registering as a political party in accordance with Electoral Law No 81 of 5 October 1978.

We must recall that the defeated and persecuted Liberal Party of 1931 was to overcome its critical situation skillfully and, since then, has achieved election to the presidency for many of its members.

With the 1968 coup d'etat, we were again prohibited from participation in the activity of national life. Since then we have been criticized, persecuted and accused of being responsible for all the ills of the country, of incompetence, disorganization, dishonesty and all the vices that those who illegally how hold power have arbitrarily wanted to blame on us.

For 10 years there has been a public relations policy aimed at convincing the young people that everything bad is due to the political parties and everything positive has been done in the period of this regime. With those lies, the country has been ruled without the participation of political parties, with presidential successions manipulated from the garrisons, with a judicial branch dependent on the executive branch and without a legislative branch.

The reforms of the 1972 Constitution did not respond to the urgent need of democratizing the country. A mixed legislative body was created, including four corregimento representatives who were not elected for those functions and limiting the direct delection to two legislators from each province. That hybrid parliament--part of which is truly elected and the other part appointed--is just one more of the inventions of the so-called revolution and will be just as successful as the sugar mills, the growth of the economy, the institutional disorder and deterioration, and the administrative confusion in general. Regarding the 505 [corregimiento representatives], we have nothing to comment insofar as the obligations established in the constitution are concerned.

The aforementioned encourages us to continue the struggle unitl the real reforms that are needed for the return of an authentic democracy are achieved.

The Liberal Party leadership has been preparing all the necessary documents to fulfill the provisions of the law and will submit them to the national board of directors for its study and approval. We are sure that the directors will prefer a great joining of efforts that will result in the registration of a great party.

I have been asked to clarify the ideological position of liberalism and I will do so. Modern liberalism, whose ideological platform will be submitted to public opinion, is Christian, accepts political and religious pluralism, and maintains as basic principles freedom, the institution of the family and full equality. The only limit to freedom is respect for and recognition of the freedom of others.

We support the free enterprise system and the social function of capital. We accept profits for investors since without profit there is no incentive for investment. However, there will always be legal measures to limit profits. We believe that capital and workers have the same worth in enterprise, and if the capital is managed by the workers and employees, their participation in profits should permit higher wages, more social benefits and better living conditions for them and their families.

The state should decide in disputes between employees and employers but it should never lean toward one or the other. It is the law which must be inexorably fulfilled in a de jure state. If, in order to win support and votes, a government unjustly sides with the worker, companies will close, investment will decline, and unemployment and economic and social crisis will occur. If, on the contrary, the government unjustly sides with the businessmen and permits unmerciful exploitation of the worker, a terrible enslaving dictatorship is established which humiliates the citizens and has to silence protests with repression, imprisonment and sometimes death.

Modern liberalism accepts political ideological pluralism. But we understand it as each citizen's right to choose the doctrine that best corresponds to his desires of living in society. We respect this conduct. What we cannot accept is when under the pretext of political pluralism, the government leans toward a doctrine, supports and imposes it, even against the will of the country's majority. That is not pluralism but imposition and abuse of power.

Within this idea, if those who have the same political ideology join to organize a political party, the government must be completely neutral and let each group work and fulfill the legal rules for organizing political parties. What undermines the acceptance of pluralism is when a specific government, because it endorses a certain political ideology, uses the tools of the state to form a party. It violates the rules of the game and disregards the law. It is an important universal rule that parties are organized by groups of citizens within the framework of the electoral law. The organization of government parties, led and supported by public officials, is not only censurable but hurts and detracts from the image that all citizens should have of the chief of state.

In the economic field, modern liberalism promotes the establishment of serious unions which defend the rights of workers but which fulfill--as the employers--the provisions of collective contracts. We accept state intervention in the fields of low-cost housing, development banks, social enterprises without the goal of profit and public utility enterprises which have limits on profits. It is clear that the evolution of modern liberalism in the economic field is what truly responds to the needs of development of free peoples.

Fellow party members, I fervently hope that the faith in our republican beliefs will guide us at this time of great historic importance in which the future of democracy and the freedom of our country will be decided.

ORGANIZATION'S ADVERTISEMENT WARNS AGAINST COMMUNISM

PA011746Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 1 Dec 78 p 52 PA

[Dios y Panama organization advertisement]

[Text] NO TO RUSSIAN-CUBAN IMPERIALISM

Panamanians: In 1951 Soviet Leader Manuilski said the following during a meeting held at the Lenin political school in Moscow: "The war between capitalism and communism is inevitable. Today, naturally, we are not strong enough to attack. Our day will come in 20 or 30 years. In order to overcome, we need the element of surprise. The bourgeoisie must be put to sleep. To do that, we will have to launch the world's most spectacular pacification campaign and as soon as they lower their guard, we will annihilate them with our closed fists."

Compatriots: 25 years have elapsed since this statement was made; the communists are now ready to take over Panama. In order to prevent this, we have organized a resistance movement against communist imperialism. Join this cause for God and Panama.

At 0900 on Saturday, 2 December, come to Santa Ana Park, where we shall say a permanent no to Russian-Cuban imperialism.

Dios y Panama

[signed] Juan Carlos Voloj Pereira
Lucrecia Herrera Cozzarelli
Rafael Fernandez Lara
Gonzalo Cordoba

COSTA RICA

PRESIDENT INVESTIGATES REPORTS ON GUERRILLA CAMPS

PA061941Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Newsman Jose Joaquin Loria, who wrote the report published in LA PRENSA LIBRE indicating that 5,000 men were training in camps which he verified in Guanacaste, has been drafted. Government sources said that the newsman had refused to go with government officials to show them the sites of the camps. Because of this, the government acted in accordance with the law and decided to draft him into the public force and so force the newsman to travel to Guanacaste.

The government maintains its firm position of demanding proof of the report in order to act immediately, since it will not permit the existence of training camps in its territory. That is why government officials decided to inspect the places in Guanacaste Province where newsman Loria said Sandinist training camps have existed or currently exist.

Meanwhile, LA PRENSA LIBRE director Andres Borrase said it backs the report and has offered the government a number of documents. He also charged that the government forced newsman Jose Joaquin Loria to go to Guanacaste, where he is right now. The director said that he has been in direct touch with President Rodrigo Carazo and his ministers since midnight. Borrase said that President Carazo and several of his ministers left for Guanacaste at 0200, taking newsman Loria with them. Since he refused to go, the newsman was drafted and forced by two Civil Guards to go to Guanacaste. The director said they wanted him to go, too, but he had refused.

PUBLIC SECURITY OFFICIALS DEPART FOR CANAL ZONE

PA062352Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1300 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 6 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican Public Security Minister Juan Jose Echeverria, accompanied by the top official (administrator) of that ministry, William Azofeifa, left for Panama at noon yesterday, Tuesday. Public Security Vice Minister Enrique Montealegre Martin said that the officials went to Panama to visit a U.S. Army base in the Panama Canal Zone. Montealegre said that the visit is being made in response to an invitation extended to Costa Rican Government officials by Lt General McAuliffe, commander of the U.S. Army Southern Command.

General McAuliffe was in Costa Rica on a "courtesy visit" in September, precisely when there was great tension in this country as a result of confrontations between Sandinist guerrillas and Nicaraguan Army forces.

Echeverria and Azofeifa will return to San Jose tomorrow, Thursday.

CIVIL GUARD PLACED ON 'MAXIMUM' ALERT

PA061429Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1349 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 6 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The 6,000 members of the Costa Rican Civil Guard have been concentrated and placed on maximum alert in view of the possibility of imminent incidents in Nicaragua which would eventually convert Costa Rican territory into a battleground of the two opposing Nicaraguan forces.

Public Security Ministry spokesmen told ACAN-EFE that the measure has been adopted in view of persistent rumors circulating here that the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), which seeks the downfall of the Anastasio Somoza government, will launch a great offensive before 24 December.

The San Jose government has indicated on repeated occasions that it will not permit new clashes between FSLN guerrillas and the Nicaraguan Army in Costa Rican territory.

Meanwhile, Francisco Peralta, legal adviser of the public security minister, traveled to Washington yesterday to present to the OAS evidence related to the 21 November incident on the border with Nicaragua. In that incident two Costa Rican Civil Guardsmen were killed by Nicaraguan soldiers, causing the Rodrigo Carazo government to break diplomatic relations with Nicaragua. Peralta said that the evidence he is taking--which has also been submitted to an OAS investigative commission which visited Costa Rica last week, leaves no doubt that the armed clash occurred in Costa Rican territory. Both the Costa Rican and the Nicaraguan Governments have said the incident took place in their respective territories. In view of this situation, the OAS commission which visited the two countries will determine who has jurisdiction over the place where the clash occurred.

Minister of the Presidency Jose Rafael Cordero said that Costa Rican Ambassador to the OAS Jose Rafael Echeverria has reported that in the next few hours the OAS will send civilian observers to the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border as requested by Costa Rica this week. The minister of the presidency said the U.S. Government will be asked to lend two helicopters so that the observers can quickly mobilize themselves along the border.

EL SALVADOR

FARN DEMANDS PUBLICATION OF MANIFESTO IN ENGLISH

PA061609Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0954 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 6 Dec (LATIN)--Sources close to the Philips Company of El Salvador have reported here that the extremist Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN) organization, which is holding Netherlands executive Fritz Schuiteman, has announced that he will not be released until the text of the manifesto which was published in Spanish in more than 30 newspapers of Europe, America and Asia is published in English. The report cleared up rumors about the fate of the businessman in view of the lack of information from his kidnapers, who had announced he would be released after the prior demand was fulfilled.

It has been learned here that the Philips headquarters in the Netherlands has received a note with the new FARN demand and that measures will be taken to carry it out.

According to a report issued to the executives of the local Philips branch and Schuiteman's family, the businessman, who was kidnaped 12 days ago, is in good health.

The terrorist organization did not set a deadline for fulfillment of its demand but stressed that Schuiteman's life will depend on the position adopted by the Netherlands company.

GUATEMALA

LAWYER SHOT TO DEATH IN CAPITAL CITY

PA061309Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0924 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 5 Dec (AFP)--Jorge Lobo Dubon, a lawyer, was shot to death today by three armed men on a street in this capital, just 100 meters from a police station. A brother of his was a member of the extreme leftist Rebel Armed Forces and died during a clash with army troops some 10 years ago. It was reported that one of Lobo Dubon's sons had been kidnaped once. Police reported that the killing is being investigated and that the dead man was not a politician. [passage indistinct]

HONDURAS

NUMBER OF NICARAGUAN REFUGEES DECREASES

PA062346Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1607 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 6 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Miguel Flores Auceda, Honduran general director of population and immigration, announced here today, Wednesday, that the number of Nicaraguan refugees in the southern part of the country has decreased. During last September's clashes in Nicaragua between the Sandinist Front and the National Guard, as many as 10,000 Nicaraguans arrived in Honduras, where they were placed in several special camps managed by the Red Cross. Only 8,400 persons remain in those camps, and the Nicaraguan exodus to Honduras has stopped almost entirely.

PLH SUPPORTS REGISTRATION OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS

PA062003Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0149 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 5 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The traditional Liberal Party of Honduras [PLH] expressed here today support for ideological pluralism, noting its solidarity with Christian democracy, so that it will be recognized and able to participate in the 1980 presidential elections. The PLH statement was issued a few days after the Supreme Electoral Tribunal rejected, at the initiative of the traditional National Party of Honduras [PNH], the registration of the Christian Democrats. The conservative PNH blocked the legal registration of the Christian Democrats under the argument that they receive financial aid from several Latin American and European countries.

"The Liberals," a widely circulated statement indicates, "accept ideological pluralism as a norm of coexistence, so long as it does not harm the principles of representative democracy." After stressing the PLH's awareness of the "decisive historical role" of Honduras, the statement demands "clean elections, without subterfuges and antipopular maneuvers," to guarantee the people's participation in the return to democracy. The Liberals stressed that they "will never oppose the registration of the Christian Democrats," adding that they view the PNH's opposition to new political forces in Honduras with concern.

PRESIDENT: COUNTRY WILL RETURN TO CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER

PA060455Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2136 GMT 5 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 5 Dec (AFP)--Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, president of the Honduran military government junta, said here today that Honduras "will return to constitutional order in line with present legal norms."

In an address to the people on the commemoration of the sixth anniversary of the military government, Paz praised the work that has been done and noted that the setbacks suffered have been due to the many problems the country had when the military seized power. Among the problems, he listed the economic crisis provoked to a large extent by the oil price increase. Among the achievements of his administration, he mentioned the impetus that it has given to private industry, noting that the state has participated in "the formation of real capital in that sector."

Paz said that Honduras has made every effort to solve its border differences with El Salvador. He stated that his country has broadened its relations of "friendship and fraternity with the rest of the American countries and the world."

General Paz concluded by admitting that the problems of the peasants have not been solved. He attributed this to the "disparity" and the enormous problems to be solved.

NICARAGUA

FSLN FACTION SAYS PEOPLE'S WAR ONLY SOLUTION TO CRISIS

PA070127Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2209 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 6 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--After rejecting the proposed plebiscite in Nicaragua, the Sandinist National Liberation Front's (FSLN) Prolonged People's War faction (GPP) has stated that a revolutionary war is the only solution for the Nicaraguan people. In a communique released in San Jose, the GPP recalled that they have denounced the possibility of a plebiscite since it was first suggested. According to the GPP communique, the group rejects the plebiscite because it "is a gross U.S. maneuver, through which imperialism seeks to resolve our country's political crisis in accordance with its own interests."

Commenting on the negotiations currently underway between President Anastasio Somoza's government and the Broad Opposition Front (FAO), the Sandinists noted that "if the U.S. intervention deserves the strongest repudiation of all Nicaraguans, then the servile attitude of the bourgeois politicians deserves the greatest contempt."

"Our country's very serious social, economic and political problems will only begin to be resolved when we Nicaraguans have totally and radically freed ourselves from Somota's dictatorship," says the FSLN communique. It also notes that "the Nicaraguan people wish to have peace but from their own political experience they have learned that this peace can be achieved only through war."

In conclusion, the GPP communique contains a number of demands, including full political and union freedom, an immediate end to repression, punishment for the enemies of the people, the dissolution of the National Guard and freedom for all political prisoners. The guerrilla communique states: "We are going to war to obtain freedom, defend our national sovereignty and open up the paths of social progress."

NATIONAL GUARD SPOKESMAN DENIES REPORTS OF MERCENARIES

PA062253Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1652 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 6 Dec (LATIN)--Referring to reports from San Jose, Costa Rica, that some 5,000 foreigners had joined the Sandinist ranks and had entered Nicaragua, National Guard spokesman Col Aquiles Aranda commented here today that "we are laughing our heads off over the report broadcast in Costa Rica."

"We are guarding that border so closely that not even flies can get through, much less 5,000 [mercenaries]," he added. He stressed that the reports received from all over the country show that the situation is normal and that the National Guard remains strictly vigilant throughout the entire national territory. Aranda concluded by saying: That rumor yesterday, about the gift that the famous Cero was allegedly going to make us, was yet another episode in their psychological war. Our soldiers at the border maintain their high morale. They say that they want to turn Cero into a real zero.

BOMBS EXPLODE AT COFFEE INSTALLATIONS IN CARAZO

PA051918Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1826 GMT 5 Dec 78 PA

[By Agustin Fuentes]

[text] Managua, 5 Dec (LATIN)--Homemade incendiary bombs exploded today at two coffee installations in Carazo Department, south of Managua, in an apparent attempt to sabotage the coffee harvest which, like the cotton harvest, is considered vital to Nicaragua's weak economy. The bombs seriously damaged machinery and the building which housed the La Amistad installation in the town of San Marcos, 40 km from Managua. Carazo firemen worked 4 hours to prevent the fire from spreading to the rest of the building.

Another fire broke out in the La Palmera installations in Diriamba, 42 km from Managua, but firemen prevented serious damage. An extensive military patrol of the area was immediately begun to prevent new attacks. This year's excellent coffee crop began to be harvested in Carazo Department 2 weeks ago amid great difficulties.

FIGHTING REPORTED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF COUNTRY

PA051247Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0022 GMT 5 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 4 Dec (AFP)--Two soldiers and two guerrillas have died in new clashes between the National Guard and the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] in various parts of the country, it was reported here today. The National Guard reported the killing of other insurgents in Agua Zarca Valley, 170 km northwest of Managua, where Sandinist forces which apparently entered from Honduras engaged in combat with military patrols beginning on 18 November. The death toll was not specified. The National Guard has reported a total of 14 guerrillas and 2 guardsmen killed since the beginning of the operations in this area.

Meanwhile, in Santa Teresa, 50 km south of the capital, a military patrol was ambushed by armed civilians. Two guardsmen and an officer were seriously wounded. Another officer was wounded and a civilian was killed in another armed clash in Las Esquinas, 30 km to the south.

FAO RESPONDS TO LATEST MEDIATION PROPOSAL

PA061214Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 0400 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[December communique of Broad Opposition Front addressed to members of International Mediation Commission--read by FAO coordinator Javier Zavala]

[Text] Honorable Gentlemen: The Broad Opposition Front (FAO) has studied your latest document issued on 2 December and wishes to state, through its political commission, the following:

1. The permanence of the Somoza family in power is the main cause of the serious political, social and economic crisis which Nicaragua is experiencing and which is affecting the other Central American countries and inter-American relations. Any conciliatory effort not based on this incontrovertible truth is destined to fail.

2. The FAO does not conceive of any possibility that the Nicaraguan people could vote in favor of having General Somoza remain in power in a popular consultation, if the consultation is carried out with indispensable guarantees for a free expression of the citizens' will.

3. The FAO reaffirms its acceptance of the proposal made by that commission and dated 21 November as it stated in its document of 29 November, in which it described as essentially unchangeable each and every one of the basic ideas presented by that mediation commission and in which the FAO also added other measures designed to guarantee the effectiveness of the popular vote.

4. In any case, none of the organizations which make up the FAO is willing, under any circumstances, to be represented in a cabinet of a government headed by General Somoza as you suggest in point 3 of your 2 December proposal.

5. The concept of a national unity government held by the FAO reflects a highly patriotic and nationalistic spirit and not an allusion to a partisan redistribution of posts and sinecures. This patriotic spirit was the inspiration of our call for the great national strike of 25 August when we proclaimed the creation of a national government which, with the greatest order and respect for human rights, would consist of persons whose competence and honesty make them deserving of the acceptance and support of all sectors of national life.

6. In view of the continuous, systematic and brutal represssion to which the people are subjected and which daily creates more mourning and pain for the Nicaraguan family, the FAO will not consider any proposal made by that mediation commission until there has been implementation of the first three guarantees which, according to your last document, have already been accepted by the Nationalist Liberal Party. These minimal guarantees are: Full reestablishment of constitutional guarantees and revocation of the decree imposing martial law; general amnesty for all political crimes, including pardons for those already convicted, suspenion of all pending cases and free access to the country for persons in asylum and in exile; revocation of the black code and all other measures should be made effective in such a manner as to cover the members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

Without the implementation of these conditions, which you consider to be indispensable, it would be very difficult to maintain confidence in the process of mediation as an effective means of resolving the national crisis in a peaceful and civic manner.

With token of highest esteem, the FAO Political Commission.

[Signed] Rafael Cordoba Rivas, Rodolfo Robelo, Alfonso Robelo

SANDINIST PROLETARIAN FACTION OPPOSES PLEBISCITE

PA061351Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] What Somoza wants is to gain time by all means. He is doing so by prolonging the negotiations to the maximum, the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] has reported through its Proletarian faction's latest bulletin signed yesterday.

This group was the first to call mediation a brazen maneuver whereby Yankee imperialism would solve the Nicaraguan political crisis according to its own interests. The FSLN's Proletarian faction rejected the plebiscite because, according to its directors' views, Somozism's continuation in power is incompatible with any electoral procedure. It added that the plebiscite is rejected because Nicaraguans will be able to solve their problems democratically only after Somoza's military dictatorship has been eliminated. Efforts are being made to exclude the Sandinist Front and so it [presumably the plebiscite] is falsely democratic.

SOMOZA RAPS 'HUMAN RIGHTS' CONCEPT

PA0616500Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0347 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Speech by President Anastasio Somoza at birthday party hosted by 'his friends' on 5 December at military club in Managua--recorded]

[Excerpt] We are experiencing moments which few nations experience because few nations have the elements of stability that Nicaragua has. In other countries, in another country, this situation would already have been decided by other means, and we would not be holding talks. However, we are holding talks because basically in Nicaragua we have the support of the people, who have asked that violence be avoided in solving the dispute. They expect the leaders to hold talks and prevent further bloodshed. [applause]

That is the formula which I choose. That is the formula which I have always chosen. It is others who are thinking that the backing of several nations was going to give them the legitimate right to obtain by force the power which our party has conquered for 50 years through the peaceful and popular vote. That is, great contradictions occur in Nicaragua. Power has been conquered here through the popular vote for 50 years, and now there are nations which, together with the traitors in our country, want to overthrow the Nationalist Liberal Party, which legtimately holds power here, without the use of the popular vote. [applause]

I say: Where are human rights? I wonder where human rights were when this regime was (?inaugurated) with the tacit recognition of all the countries which today oppose us. The rules of the game are being changed in the middle of the game. Do they have the right to change the rules? No, gentlemen. Is it because we have respected our constitution and established a state of law, because Nicaragua has been an orderly country, because it has respected the law, because it has been a peaceful country? How is it that the rules of the game are changed today to establish policies which truly are still not proven in the world?

Where human rights are violated, another philosophy authorizes the violation because it is the right to obtain power. Where what has been traditionally considered a crime has to be repressed, to do what our history and our ancestors taught us to be good appears as a human right today. [sentence as heard]

Gentlemen, the world is mad. It is rife with contradictions, and the biggest contradition today resides in Nicaragua because you all know what is happening to the government of Iran, to my good friend the shah of Iran. He is justified for machinegunning unarmed and defenseless people in the streets. However, when we have to defend ourselves from armed men, invasions from enemy nations, we are told that we are violating human rights. Gentlemen, let fools buy that philosophy because Anastasio Somoza and the Liberals will die for what is ours--truth and (?the constitution).

Therefore, my friends, when you return to your homes I want you to take the message of friendship and love and peace of Anastasio Somoza Debayle and the message that whoever will hold power in Nicaragua will (?do so) based on votes and the political constitution which we have upheld so strongly in Nicaragua.

It can be said that this country has been ruled by a single party for many years, but we can show many great things that we have done for the Nicaraguan people. It can be said that we have done what we wanted, but the people have backed those desires because they have been the ones to benefit most from all the laws which the Liberal Party has passed and from all the concessions that the people have been given, always thinking about the general welfare of Nicaraguans. It can be said that they need a change; let them earn it through popular vote. [applause]

I want to thank all of you for your firm convictions. I want to give thanks for the courage of all Nicaraguans who have been firm and have not been daunted by so many threats. I want to tell you that the best gift you can offer me is the good will that you have for me, the political desire that I carry out the job for which you elected me, the presidency, and any action which is necessary as proof to maintain our thesis that what we elected in (?1974) is good until 1981. Thank you. [applause]

ERNESTO CARDENAL VIEWS U.S. PLANS FOR INTERVENTION

PA061854Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1817 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Panama City, 6 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Priest and poet Ernesto Cardenal, roving ambassador of the Sandinist Front, said here today that in view of the failure of the international mediation in Nicaragua, the United States is preparing a military intervention with regular or irregular troops of other Central American countries.

During a news conference held during a stopover in Panama today on his way to San Jose, the guerrilla priest said that the Sandinist secret services had discovered the threat. He said he could not go into details. He added that the military intervention would mean "a new genocide in Nicaragua, undoubtedly greater than the one that already occurred." He said that the Sandinist Front is ready to "struggle until the complete liberation of the country" is achieved. He warned that if the United States decides to internationalize the conflict, the guerrillas will be forced to resort to volunteer brigades from throughout the world.

There is already a Panamanian contingent led by former officials of Gen Omar Torrijos' government. Cardenal revealed today that there are thousands of volunteers willing to join the struggle.

Cardenal began the news conference with a "firm condemnation" of the plebiscite proposed by the international mediators to decide whether or not President Anastasio Somoza leaves power. "It is imperialism's plan so that Somoza will continue in power or so that there will be Somozism without Somoza," Cardenal said. He then clarified reports about the alleged participation by the Sandinist Front in the Broad Opposition Front (FAO), which has accepted the plebiscite, although with reservations and conditions. He insisted that the FSLN rebels have never participated in the talks with the international mediators, nor are they represented in the FAO.

Cardenal has just finished a political tour of American and European countries asking for aid for the Sandinist Front. He denied U.S. reports that Cuba is giving military aid to the rebels but, when he was asked the same thing about Venezuela, he said only that Venezuela sympathizes with the Nicaraguan anti-Somozists.

CASTRO MARKS BUILDERS' DAY AT CIENFUEGOS POWER PLANT

Report on Event

FL052039 [Editorial Report FL] Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish at 2014 GMT on 5 December begins live coverage of main event marking builders' day from the Carlos Manuel de Cespedes thermoelectric power plant in Cienfuegos city.

Black-and-white coverage opens with shots of the workers assembled on the grounds. One of the signs reads "To Produce and Build With Better Quality." Castro and other Cuban leaders are seen arriving on the dais as the assembled workers applaud. The national anthem is played at 2018 GMT. Standing on the platform, the following are identifiable: Osvaldo Dorticos, Ramiro Valdes and Robert Veiga.

Staff announcer comes to the microphone and announces that today is the anniversary of the death of construction worker Armando Mestre. He further announces that chairing the event are Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, other members of the PCC Politburo and Central Committee, local party leaders and outstanding construction workers, as well as those who have 50 years of service. Castro then presents diplomas to some workers on behalf of thousands of others who have completed their adult education program. Castro is introduced and begins speaking at 2025 GMT.

Address by Fidel Castro

FL052323Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2025 GMT 5 Dec 78 FL

[Speech of President Fidel Castro at main commemoration of builders' day held at the Carlos Manuel de Cespedes thermoelectric plant in Cienfuegos--live]

[Text] Dear Comrade builders. We are meeting at this simple but important event to commemorate builders' day and we do it alongside an important project which symbolizes others in various locations in the country which have been completed this year. We do it in a province and in a city which, along with this one, inaugurates several projects.

Why has Cienfuegos chosen to commemorate builders' day in this province? Of course, Cienfuegos does not get all the credit because there are builders here from several central provinces of the country. And there are builders here even from the eastern provinces. Just recently a good number of reinforcements arrived from the eastern provinces. But without question the spirit of the people of Cienfuegos has contributed a lot to this honor of being the site of the commemoration. I have brought along some figures, forgive me if I bore you a little with these figures. In any case I am only going to refer to some of the figures I have here, but they are construction figures of interest to you and of interest to the whole country.

Within the country's construction plan Cienfuegos has a broad investment plan, which makes it one of provinces with the greatest development intensity and continuity. In 1978 projects of major importance have been completed for the national economy, such as unit number three of the Carlos Manuel de Cespedes thermoelectric plant, which has brought 169 mw to the energy plan, the wheat mill with a capacity of 600 tons per day, an IMS [housing components enterprise prefab construction system] housing unit plant with a capacity for 1,500 housing units per year. In all, up to today this province has completed 38 projects and 9 more will be completed by the end of the year, making a total of 47 projects completed this year.

These projects are: One Camilo Cienfueguos military-vocational school, one IMS housing plant, one ice plant, two sand washers [lavadora de arena], two urban secondary basic schools, two rural secondary basic schools in coffee zones, one dormitory at the "Cinco de Septiembre" technological school, one semi-boarding school--La Sierrita--five child care centers, two polyclinics, five sports gymnasiums, four commercial centers, one general cargo wharf, three regular dairy farms, one 820-line telephone center, unit number three of the Carlos Manuel de Cespedes thermoelectric plant, the wheat mill, the Sugar Ministry--MINAZ--combined shop of diesel locomotive engines, two sugarcane collection and processing stations, and one fertilizer warehouse.

Projects to be completed by the end of the year: One 630-bed clinical-surgical hospital, one combined sprinkler irrigation plant with a capacity of 9,000 km of tubing, one 180-child capacity child care center, two regular dairy farms, one breeding center, one supermarket in the area of O'Bourke, one number three wharf for citrus, and one CADM [expansion unknown] warehouse.

From 1970 to today, Cienfuegos has shown a progressive growth year by year in the construction center. From almost 7 million produced in 1970, 1978 ends with more than 110 million pesos produced. That is, construction in this province has grown some 15 times over the last 8 years. During this same period the sector's work force has grown 4.5 times. In 1970 there were 3,572 builders. Today, 14,614 workers have been incorporated, without counting new workers, among them the 1,000 from the eastern provinces. Productivity of 1,786 pesos per worker in 1970 is already more than 7,561 pesos. That is the value of construction has grown by around 15 times and the number of workers has grown 4.5 times. I am not going to read... I am only going to say that from 1970 to 1978 221 projects have been completed in the province. They are: 61 industrial projects, 49 school projects, 40 social projects and 7 hydraulic projects. [figures as heard] This, in general, is what we have built, but we are also building in Cienfuegos. We are building the largest cement plant in the country. Next year the first line will already be ready--how about that--next year. [applause] [He turns to someone on the podium who says something to him] There are two lines, one in May and another in October, and the last one in March 1978 [he corrects himself] in 1980, March 1980. They have pledged this and we are sure that they will fulfill this in the same way as was done by the builders of this unit. [applause] To complete this unit on that date despite the fact that this pledge was made in April, at the beginning of April, at which time there was a 3-month delay. And despite the difficulties, which we had in soldering, the question of argon, nevertheless they finished ahead of the pledge by several days. [applause]

Despite delays and difficulties with foreign supplies, the workers of the irrigation industry are fulfilling their obligations. The workers of the wheat mill have also fulfilled their pledge. [applause] All those pledges were made in April. We cannot forget such an important factory as the one for prefabricated dwellings of the IMS system whose workers have also fulfilled their pledge. [applause] At the same time some 400 dwellings have been built. They are not many; we need many more. The 600-bed hospital is almost completed; it will be finished by December. [applause] It will be the first to be completed of the first 10 we started. It will improve extraordinarily the hospital situation in Cienfuegos Province. It now has one 280-bed hospital. That hospital will later become a maternity hospital and this one will be a general hospital. It is something very good for Cienfuegos Province to have that hospital completed, which we have been told is a magnificent project.

Well, we could say that all this is nothing. In addition to the cement plant, which is a tremendous project, we have to--before I go into this topic--finish this unit, the second unit of 169 mw which the workers are planning to complete by 20 July. Is that clear? [applause] I said that this is nothing [Castro chuckles], we still have a few large projects to start here, among them or in the first place, the nuclear power plant, which will have production capacity of nearly 1,00 mw and which will be the first industry of this type to be built in the country.

I have been told it is a difficult and hard construction project. In reality, I ask myself if there is anything serious--well, everything is serious for you--but I ask myself if there is anything hard, difficult or impossible for the Cienfuegos construction workers. [crowd yells "no" and applauds]

In the future an oil refinery will have to be built, possibly other chemical industries such as fertilizer, which will be very important industries for the economy. I must mention that the province's sugar mill is under construction. So there are many projects to be built. I imagine that someday in the future the first unit of the nuclear power plant will be inaugurated with the same enthusiasm as today.

Among the initial figures of the draft project for the period 1981-1985, Cienfuegos Province will assimilate 15 percent of the total program of industrial construction projects. It will only be surpassed by Holguin, which will have 36 percent of the plan. This is due to the fact that the bulk of the nickel plants and iron and steel industry will be located there. This growth, this development of Cienfuegos, will generate the construction of many dwellings and other urban projects. Cienfuegos is rather small. The city is rather small. It now has a population of nearly 100,000 inhabitants. A number of industries have been assigned to it.

It is not a matter of the central government having granted special privileges to Cienfuegos, even though Cienfuegos deserves all considerations. [applause] It is a matter--for example--that the raw materials for the cement plant were here or very near Cienfuegos. Cienfuegos also has a great port, which is very important, essential when building a factory such as the fertilizer plant, or when building an oil refinery. Cienfuegos is located in the center of the country. That is what determined the location of the first nuclear power plant.

The need for having the wheat mill here is precisely because of the port. That is why many of the industries had to be built here. They are quite numerous. They are many. We have tried, in making decisions on the location of industries, not to add any more industries to Cienfiegos. We have a program of distribution of industries throughout the country and in all provinces, preferably in those provinces which have a work-force surplus, those which have more human resources. Sometimes the location of an industry is determined because of a port or raw materials. At other times this is not the fundamental factor because the raw material is imported and an effort is made to make an equitable distribution of all investments throughout the country. But these circumstances were the factor that determined a high, large volume for Cienfuegos.

That is why it became necessary to bring reinforcements from other provinces. We expect this province will continue to receive reinforcements, especially from the eastern provinces. I have been told that the eastern province workers are known for their seriousness, discipline, good work and, possibly, they like Cienfuegos.

This will also require the city's social development, a strong drive for the construction of dwellings. That is why it is advantageous to have at our disposal that IMS system prefabricated factory with a production potential of 1,500 dwellings. Thus, year after year the volume of house construction will increase in Cienfuegos. More good news which I can give you today is that the fertilizer plant, which created so many problems due to reasons beyond our control, is now producing ammonium nitrate and is maintaining a good production pace. [applause]

In this industry we are also making investments aimed at solving problems once and for all and achieving the production that such an important factory should reach. I believe that the inauguration of this thermoelectric unit is important for the entire country. It is a very modern unit and economical to operate, which--I repeat--produces 169 mw or 169,000 kw. You take your pick.

Suffice it to say that just the output of that unit equals half of what Cuba had prior to the triumph of the revolution. [applause] That is to give you an idea of how the generation of electricity increases and how much electricity we consume.

Without this basic industry nothing moves. That includes the cement plant, the wheat mill, the irrigation equipment factory, the hospital, the schools, the dairy farms--nothing moves without electricity. The technology of this plant is Japanese. That is why some tens of Japanese technicians have worked with our workers, giving us advice on the assembly of the plant. In tribute to them we must say that they have worked hard and very efficiently. [applause] That is why on this day we express to them our recognition for the effort made and the enthusiasm with which they did it, together with our workers, to complete the assembly of this plant.

To give you an idea, let me say this. These large units are much more economical [to operate]. For example, the two units that were here prior to the revolution--did we talk about that?--I believe there were two small power plants of 5,000 kw each. They are still there. We cannot stop operating anything. They burn 400 grams of fuel for every kw-hour, that is 420. They are American, from the decade of the 40s. That was all Cienfuegos had. The revolution built the first 30,000-kw units of Czechoslovak technology. Those plants, which are rather small, burn 294 grams of fuel per kw. The Czech plant we built in Nuevitas burns 236 grams, that is, the greater the technical efficiency, progress in technology and higher production rate, the greater the savings in fuel. That is why the Czechoslovak units of 125,000 kw only burn 236 grams. These units of 160,000 kw burn 217.5 grams of fuel per kw-hour. The two old plants, those of 5,000 kw, burn twice the amount of fuel needed by the plant we are inaugurating today. Next to it is a similar one, the other unit you will start operating next year. The brigade chief told me that you will commemorate the 26 July anniversary by inaugurating the second unit. [applause] After observing the progress made in the project, knowing the determination, quality and honor of the workers of this brigade, we do not doubt that it will be completed by that date.

Thus, the Cienfuegos thermoelectric power plant will attain a production potential of 402,000 kw, 402 mw that is, this power plant will have a production potential greater than all that existed in the country prior to the revolution. That is an interesting piece of information. It is evident that there and in Mariel great efforts are being made building additional units. The same is being done in Nuevitas and in Santiago de Cuba, building new units. Thus, it can be said that in the years 1977, 1978, 1979 and 1980 we will complete the construction of units capable of producing 1,102 mw. This means that in just 4 years the country will have double its electricity-producing potential. But because we use so much the needs grow. Since the revolution's triumph needs have grown at a pace of approximately 10 percent per year and we still have blackouts. That is why the efforts in building thermoelectric power plants is so important, so that we are able to rid ourselves of blackouts as soon as possible, those blackouts that cause so much trouble to the population.

Since today is builders' day we must talk not only about those who are directly involved in construction but those who produce the materials. The materials industry has made an enormous effort. During this 5-year period an investment of nearly 500 million pesos is being made in the construction materials industry. The 1978 production plan will be fulfilled by between 97 and 98 percent in the materials industry, with 10-percent growth over 1977. This branch currently provides employment to 42,300 workers.

That is, the building materials industry has grown at a high rate, three-and-a-half times between 1970 and 1978. And productivity has doubled. The cement plan for this year will have a completion rate of between 97 and 98 percent, or, some 30,000 tons more than last year.

But already in 1979 we will have the first line of the Mariel plant in production, and the second line will also start up. And the first lines of the plant in Cienfuegos will start up. Therefore, our production capacity of cement will grow considerably. It will practically double with these two large plants.

We can now make some comparisons between 1970 and 1978. Cement: In 1970 there were 742,000 tons, in 1978 there will be 2,680,000 tons--see how we have grown in cement [production]. Gravel: in 1970, 2,913,000 cubic meters; in 1978, 9,550,000. Total sand: in 1970, 1,210,000 cubic meters; in 1978, 4.6 million. Concrete: in 1970, 12,874,000 [presumably cubic meters]; in 1978, 43 million. Bricks: in 1970, 31,289,000 [presumably sq meters]; in 1978, 80 million. Floor tile: 134,000 sq meters [in 1970]; [Castro pauses] in 1978, 2,250,000. Sometimes it is hard to read these little numbers because every mathematician writes them their own way and then we have to decipher them. For all practical purposes there was an significant production of floor tile in 1970. This production has grown between 15 and 20 times. Mosaics: in 1970 there was 518,000 sq meters. In 1978, 2.2 million. Wood carpentry: in 1970, 412,000 sq meters; in 1978, 1.7 million. Bathroom fixtures: in 1970, 55,000 [measure not given]; in 1978, 249,000. Bathroom tile: in 1970, 17,559,000 [presumably sq meters]. You all be careful. One of these times I am going to make a mistake and will cite a figure... 35 .3 33...oh yes, come here Lopito, see if you can help me because these figures... [Castro then confers with Lopito and answers him] Yes, this gives me many millions, but ...[Lopito then says something that is not picked up by the microphones] [laughter from the crowds] Well, all right...17,559,000; in 1978, 47 million. Cement pipes for waterworks: in 1970, 43 km; in 1978, 150. Cement pipes for sewer systems: in 1970, 164; in 1978, 332 km. This gives one an idea of how building material production has progressed in 8 years, and of the enormous effort made in this field.

We can now say something about the builders, how the builders are doing. There are also a lot of figures, but I repeat that I do not want to wear you out with too many numbers. The Construction Ministry has 132 construction enterprises set up, in the specialties of engineering, architecture, mixed industrial, landscape, projects, prefabs, supply and transportation, workshops, etc. These enterprises have 270,000 workers in construction. You know that there are other ministries which have builders. But most of them are in the Construction Ministry, which includes 270,000 workers. The production plan for the present year will be 92 percent completed, showing a 2-percent growth over last year. Construction has also grown enormously since 1970. For example, in 1971 production was at 339 million, in 1978 it will be 1,121,000,000 pesos.

Among the construction we have a very important field, that of industrial construction and assembly. In 1971 this activity had 12,000 workers in 16 construction and assembly brigades, with an average production rate of 3,000 pesos per worker per year. At present this is organized into 2 enterprises and 5 establishments embracing 14 earth-moving brigades, 53 construction and assembly brigades for a total of 54,000 workers--of them 8,500 are assemblers. Average productivity is [words indistinct] Between 1976 and 1978 there have been 617 million spent, of which 89 million were in assembly. This activity has also grown considerably. Value of production in 1976 was 141 million, in 1978 it will be 253 million, and next year it should reach the figure of 287 million. Performance in 1978 and 1979 is characterized by the chief effort in completing projects and in creating new capacities. Construction is presently underway to build more than 200 projects, complete more than 200 projects of this type between 1979 and 1980. It is very important to understand the development of industrial construction and assembly activities, because in the past our country did not have forces able to build projects of this type.

Every time we had to build a factory here a foreign enterprise had to be brought in for the projects. A few industries were built, but for industries involving difficulties, such as the one in Nicaro or the sugar mills, foreign enterprises had to be brought in.

We can say that at the time of the revolution's triumph there were no ongoing industrial construction projects. Now we have 54,000 workers involved in this type of activity and all industries now being built are being done by our country's construction brigades. All industries are being built by Cuban workers. Our workers are building four sugar mills, to cite an example. Our workers are expanding Antillana de Acero. Our workers are building thermoelectric units such as this one in various parts of the country. Our workers are building a plant in Moa with a production potential of 30,000 tons of nickel. That is a very complex industry. Our workers are building textile mills. Our workers are building all types of industries, industries which are increasingly more complex.

We are now preparing--I should mention the gigantic cement plants. Our workers assembled that fertilizer chemical plant here in Cienfuegos. Our workers are preparing to build the nuclear power plant which, as I said, is complex, and our workers are getting ready to build the iron-steel factory in Oriente. Our workers are preparing to build the oil refinery in Cienfuegos. So there is not a single type of industry, no matter how big or complex, that we cannot build. I believe this should provide great satisfaction to all of our people and, especially, for our construction workers. [applause]

Not only that, We are sure that if any country wants our services for the construction and assembly of any type of factory, we have the spirit, the will and the skill to do such a thing in any part of the world. [applause] In the past we imported construction labor. Now, not only are we capable of building our projects but we can export construction labor. We are creating for our fatherland one more resource, one more source of income in foreign currency so dearly required in the development of our economy.

Unfortunately, that modern and sophisticated equipment we have installed here is not produced in our country. It has to be purchased and paid for cent by cent. Our construction workers not only build industrial projects. A small portion of them are devoted to industrial construction and assembly. A large number of workers are assigned on all fronts of construction work. Those are the ones building the central railway system, the main national highway, thousands of roads and highways, dams, irrigation systems, ports, dairy farms, poultry and hog farms. They are the ones who respond to our social needs. They are the ones who build hospitals which give so much peace of mind, encourage and satisfy the needs of the population. Those are the ones who build the vocational schools, the secondary basic schools in the countryside or cities, the preuniversities, the military vocational schools, the sports schools, the physical education teacher-training schools, the health technology schools, the child care centers, the Pioneer camps, the universities, among them, the one in Cienfuegos, where ground has already been broken to build next to the magnificent hospital a school of medicine and other university schools. [applause]

Construction workers are the ones who develop the housing programs, the ones who build housing for the families, the ones who build the stores, the ones who build libraries, the ones who build other services such as waterworks, sewer systems. Summing up, construction workers are the ones who have transformed the country's looks. [applause] The enormous transformation which we can observe here in Cienfuegos, for example, such as the primary school teacher school, which I have not mentioned, is done by them. The stadium, which I have not mentioned, is among the many things you build for the satisfaction and well-being of the people. [applause] This has produced a miraculous transformation in Cienfuegos. It looks that way. It is miraculous in the sense that work makes miracles. Those are the ones who have transformed the cities of Santa Clara, Camaguey, Holguin, Tunas, Manzanillo, Santiago de Cuba, Bayamo, Guantanamo, Sancti Spiritus, Matanzas, Pinar del Rio. I have not mentioned Havana because it was quite developed when the revolution triumphed and there the miracle is not as obvious, due to its size.

If you build a hospital in Havana, you can barely see it. You build a factory and you can barely see it. There are marvelous projects in Havana, such as the Alamar housing project, to cite an example among many. These are changes that have taken place even in Havana.

It is in the cities in the interior where for the most part you see the change. In any of these cities--as we have said, many of the looked like towns, such as Pinar del Rio--extraordinary transformation took place when primary teachers schools were built, when the vocational school was built, when the technological schools were built, when the hospitals were built, as well as the new plants.

And this is what took place in all of the capitals of our provinces over the last few years, as the fruit of the unselfish and brave efforts of the workers in construction. Your work is closely linked to the well-being, joy, progress and happiness of our people. Therefore, so much has dignified the workers in construction. [applause] For this reason our society so highly values the effort made by you.

Before the revolution, in speaking about construction, in speaking about work in construction, was to speak about the fifth wheel of the car, which works, and for some months the builders work killing dead time. It was unstable work, unsure work, and even a few men could not work in construction. The governments in power would carry out some small projects during the dead time. The workers had to go looking for work, go begging to the politicians and their political deputies to give the men some chance of earning their bread for some months during the year. That society looked almost with contempt on the construction workers. Since the revolution triumphed, when the need for development emerged in all areas, and above all in these years when our country could with more tranquillity and peace devote itself to development. The social prestige of the workers in construction has been rising. Their awareness, pride of being vanguard workers in our country has been rising, because the most basic of all fields is construction. It is said that the electrical industry is basic. It is true. The energy industry is basic. It is true. The metallurgy industry is basic. Yes, it is true. The raw material industries, it is true. But without construction there is no electricity industry, there is no mechanical industry, there is no iron and steel industry, there is no fuel industry, there is nothing. [applause]

Therefore, it is our judgment that this is the most basic field in our economy, but at the same time it is a beautiful and creative task, because change is in great part your work. I repeat, construction resolves so many problems, and is becoming an important source of revenue. Therefore, it is necessary to point out the fact with satisfaction that close to 4,500 workers in construction are abroad [applause], providing their services [applause] of international cooperation. As you know, in the cases of countries with a situation of much poverty we have donated and are donating technical assistance. Countries with resources pay us for the work we do. And the demand continually grows in some countries to contract construction projects with us. Well, [applause] I believe this should be a source of satisfaction, of pride [applause] for our builders [applause]. And our builders have the reputation that when they are abroad they even work better than they do here. Of course, they go with their spirit; their revolutionary spirit which is strengthened. Their revolutionary awareness is heightened and in this way, when you today think about the most outstanding construction workers or cadres, you think about those builders who went to Guinea to build airports and roads, or went to Vietnam to build hospitals, hotels, dairies, or they went to Angola to build bridges, to build housing units. [applause] They strengthen our revolutionary awareness, they strengthen our people's spirit. This is one measure of how far we have advanced, of what the revolution is, of what socialism is and what the Cuba of today is.

We are not a rich country which can have the luxury of throwing away money. We cannot be international tourists, but rather take short trips and in the socialist countries. But we can increasingly practice international collaboration in mass numbers. [applause] We are not tourists. We cannot be tourists. But we can tour the world as workers, as builders, as creators. [applause] And you can appreciate the example of the hundreds of youth who are members of the Che Guevara detachment, and who work as teachers in the Angolan secondary basic schools. [applause] And in this way thousands and thousands of men, tens of thousands, in one field or another, as combatants, or as workers, tens of thousands of men are enriching their experiences. They are enriching their knowledge. They are enriching their spirit. They are enriching their prestige. They are enriching their history and they are enriching their revolutionary record. [applause]

I am sure that if I asked here who had carried out international missions of one type or another, many dozens would raise their hands. [applause] But I will not ask who has done this, but who is willing to carry them out? [cheering and applause from the audience] I knew that all of you, men and women, would raise your hands. [prolonged applause]

New generations of builders are made in this spirit, and in this way in the construction schools we have at present capacity for 25,000 youth. And in 1979 we hope to fill all of these places. We are recruiting, especially among the youth getting out of the service, in all of the provinces for construction and for the iron and steel industry. And when we lack some youth in one place and we have extra in another, we will transfer them to other schools and train them. We will be training 25,000. And these youths who have come out of the service will even receive a certain income when they enter school to train themselves in all qualifications. And we have to work this way to resolve the problem, by filling all the schools and creating legions of youth already trained, going through discipline, full of energy, enthusiasm and life to fill the ranks of the glorious army of builders. [applause]

Today we have had the satisfaction of handing out diplomas to two graduating youths and to laborer Valentin, who received his diploma for 25 years of worthy service. He came here to receive his diploma and I thought that Valentin would be old, but it turns out that Valentin is not old at all. He is practically a young man, and he has been in construction for 27 years. He began when he was 16 years old. And I believe he will remain to receive another diploma. [applause] Already in the [Construction] Ministry there are 270,000. If we count the other organizations, for example the MINAZ and the electrical industry also have builders, we should have around 350,000. But we have to prepare ourselves to face the housing construction program for example, and we need between 60,000 and 70,000 more workers. It would not be strange for the ministry in 1985 to have in it some 350,000 or 360,000 workers alone. The construction field is becoming the most numerous sector in the country. Before, most were in the sugarcane harvest, but luckily we only need some 330,000 canecutters and each time we need less. From 1970 to now, with the collecting and sugarcane processing stations, the cane hoisters and the machinery, we have saved around 220,000 canecutters, around 220,000 canecutters. [applause]

We have mechanized the harvest. We have reduced the number of workers in the field. We have raised their productivity. We have increased the construction forces. We have to respond to all the industrial development programs, to the social development plans, and above all in the future to the imperative, indispensable and vital need to reach nothing less than 100,000 housing units per year. And we have to reach this. It is imperative that we reach this. Then we will see, yes we will see, transformation or transformations in our country. It is a difficult problem. It takes time, but only a revolution can undertake this task. No capitalist country has resolved this, only the socialist countries have resolved the construction problems, or they are resolving them in an efficient manner. It is not a 5- or 10-year task.

But you can see, I have read you figures of what we have produced in gravel, sand, cement, how all of our needs are being answered. It was logical to set the schools, hospitals, plants, dairies, economic installations as priorities. But we are now entering into a situation in which we have resources to draw up an economic plan, and housing construction plan, which is at the level of our needs.

Therefore, the number of builders has to grow. From this well of youth we must train and qualify and provide the highest levels of study to raise productivity. We have seen what the workers in construction are able to do. We know we do not ignore the problems which paralyze us many times. It can be a piece of equipment, it can be some raw material that is exhorbitant, it can be gas which is not available in time. And we know that we are working with difficulties, but we believe in determining that in the future we do not lack oxygen, argon, or containers, and less that we lack sand, that we do not lack steel rods, that we do not lack gravel, nor that we lack cement, by consolidating and developing the material base of construction. And in the meantime it is necessary that we overcome deficiencies of the subjective type as well as our organizational deficiencies. It is necessary that each year we become more efficient, that we can continue raising productivity in everything, in all construction, in industry, social and economic fields.

[We have to continue to raise the level of productivity], especially in construction work. We have to continue to develop the system of prefabricated [components] with plants which will raise the productivity levels as much as possible. This is necessary because if we do not there will not be enough of us. On the contrary, we will not have enough hands. That is why it is encouraging to note that in recent years the level of productivity has been raised considerably in the construction sector with technology, equipment, prefabricated systems, better organization, better spirit. That is very important.

I do not want to prolong this event. You have been out in the sun quite a long time. The sun has been shining in your faces. Those who built the stands forgot that the west was to that side [laughter] and that about this time of day is when the sun is really hot. They probably wanted to help us; the sun is on our backs. It is not bad to have the sun on your back. It has been said that armies have won battles with the sun on their backs because the adversary forces could not see very well. [laughter] But here I do not have to win any battle. I would have been very happy if I had the sun in my face or on my side. Well, let us not blame anyone. Perhaps there was no other better place than this near the power plant. Perhaps it would have been better to wait for the sun to set. [applause]

I would like to reiterate the enormous appreciation of our party, government and people for your efforts, to congratulate you for the work accomplished in this past year, to express our great affection for, our highest regard for and our confidence in the construction workers. [applause] who have so deservingly earned that title of worthy men of the white helmets. [applause], of the men forming this combative army which will doubtlessly be at the vanguard of our country's economic and social development and which will know how to march victoriously and sweepingly toward the future.

Fatherland or death, we shall win!

Later Report on Castro

FL061407Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1351 GMT 6 Dec 78 FL

[Excerpts] Shortly before the start of the main commemorative activity marking builders day, held yesterday at the Carlos Manuel de Cespedes thermoelectric plant in Cienfuegos, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro toured various installations of that plant and was interested in technical and functional details of the modern plant.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers and first secretary of the PCC Central Committee, yesterday also visited the site of the clinical-surgical hospital under construction in Cienfuegos. Fidel was accompanied on the tour by PCC Central Committee Politburo members Ramiro Valdes and Arnaldo Milian and Cienfuegos Province Party First Secretary Humberto Miguel Fernandez. Fidel talked with (Juan Blay), chief of the brigade that is building the hospital, and was briefed in detail on the attention that will be given to future patients. At the conclusion of the tour the chief of the revolution saw the area where work has begun for the construction of a polytechnical health institute.

REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES OBSERVE BUILDERS' DAY

FL060032Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] gave an emotional viva to the Cuban construction workers in the FAR main event marking builders' day, which was held this morning at military unit No 1890 in Santa Clara. At said unit several social and recreational projects were inaugurated. Also chairing the event were PCC Central Committee members Carlos Pis Delgado, first party secretary in Villa Clara Province, Brig Gen Sixto Batista Santana, FAR vice minister-chief of the Central Political Directorate, Div Gen Francisco Cabrera Gonzalez, alternate member of the PCC Central Committee and FAR vice minister-chief of the Anti-Aircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force, other members of the party provincial bureau and committee in Villa Clara, FAR chiefs and officers, members of the FAR civilian workers union directorate and outstanding construction workers.

The closing remarks of the FAR event marking builders' day were made by Col Carlos Lahite Lahera, chief of the FAR central construction projects and housing department. The unit's pledge was read by Col Raul Perez, chief of military unit No 1890, in which aspects such as caring for the camp with dedication and zeal as well as proper use of lecture halls, libraries, discoteques and other installations are included.

Students from Santa Clara's Camilo Cienfuegos military school and combatants of military unit No 1890 participated in a beautiful military parade, led by the FAR civilian construction workers.

CEMA NONFERROUS METALLURGY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS OPEN

FL041216Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The 49th meeting of the CEMA standing commission for nonferrous metallurgy opens today at the Ambassadors Hall of the Habana Libre Hotel. The most important matters to be examined at the meeting include specific long-term cooperation programs designed to satisfy demands of member countries for the principal nonferrous metals, including copper, aluminum and nickel.

Within the framework of this commission, a general multilateral cooperation agreement was signed 3 years ago for the creation of nickel and cobalt production at the Las Camariocas deposits on Cuba's northeastern coast. Another matter to be discussed concerns research work being done at the pilot plant in Nicaro for a new technology for complete exploitation of laterite minerals.

Further Reportage

FL041837Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The 49th meeting of the CEMA standing commission for nonferrous metallurgy opened moments ago at the Ambassadors Hall of the Habana Libre Hotel. All active members of this integration organization of the socialist countries, as well as Yugoslavia, are represented at this meeing of the CEMA standing commission for nonferrous metallurgy.

The first session this morning was chaired by Joel Domenech, vice president of our country's Council of Ministers, and Oscar Fernandez Mell, president of the people's government provincial assembly [of Havana City], both of them members of the PCC Central Committee. Manuel Cespedes, our country's minister of mines and geology, welcomed the delegates and outlined the most important points on the agenda. He also stressed our country's achievements in the nonferrous metallurgy sector.

[Begin Cespedes recording] In the same manner, we warmly welcome the happy coincidence that the active participation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in the commission begins with this first session of the standing commission for nonferrous metallurgy being held in Cuba. In this regard, our wishes go hand in hand with the noble feelings which our people express to Vietnam and we expect that its participation in this commission will facilitate, to a certain degree, the reconstruction and development of that heroic country, which has been devastated by the imperialist war, so that a one thousand-times more beautiful Vietnam can emerge, despite all the past and present schemes and acts of aggression. [applause] [end recording]

Additional Details

FL042029Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 4 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The agenda of the 49th meeting of the CEMA standing commisssion for nonferrous metallurgy includes several topics of essential interest for Cuba's nonferrous metallurgy industry, stated Mines and Geology Minister Manuel Cespedes Fernandez in his opening remarks at the meeting, which began its working sessions at the Havana Libre Hotel. One of those points, he added, is the joint efforts aimed at expanding existing capabilities or creating new production capablilities of nickel and cobalt as well as the one referring to the preliminary results of semi-industrial tests for the full exploitation of laterite minerals.

Another point to be discussed he said, is related to scientific and research work topics aimed at improving the technical level of processing in the nonferrous metallurgy industry. Cespedes Fernandez reported the efforts being made to triple our nickel production by 1985. He referred to the cooperation plan with the Soviet Union to recondition the Moa and Nicaro plants as well as building a plant at Las Camariocas in cooperation with CEMA member countries.

The first part of the plan, he noted, gives primary attention to increasing nickel and cobalt production. Equal attention will also be given to the full exploitation of laterite minerals which not only contain nickel but also are a source for cobalt, chrome, alumina and iron. The degree of progress being recorded by the work in nickel, geological research efforts and new yields make it possible to establish the groundwork for the future development of other products. Referring to those initial steps, which will soon show fruit or in the next 5-year period, the Cuban mines and geology minister noted the construction and installation of the coppper mine and plant in Jucaro, Bahia Honda, Pinar Del Rio Province.

He also referred to other deposits and plants for the production of lead and zinc concentrates, barite and chromite or refractory-grade chromite, silica sand, bentonite, dolomite, calcium carbonate and salt. The CEMA meeting on nonferrous metallurgy which opened today will continue its working sessions until next Friday, 8 December.

RAUL CASTRO RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM SOVIET DEFENSE MINISTER

FL021355Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Marshal of the Soviet Union and Defense Minister Dmitriy Ustinov has sent a message to Army Gen Raul Castro, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], on the occasion of FAR day Ustinov conveys combative and fraternal greetings and congratulations from all members of the Soviet Union Armed Forces to the Cuban combatants.

On this memorable day, the message states in one of its paragraphs, I wish you, Comrade Minister, and all Cuban combatants greater successes in the fulfillment of resolutions of the First PCC Congress dealing with the continued strengthening of the defensive capability of your fatherland.

USSR FISH INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE VISITS BATABANO

FL022012Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Dec 78 FL

[Text] (Vladimir Kobal), representative of the USSR Fish Industry Ministry in Cuba, has visited the Batabano industrial complex in Havana Province. During his tour, (Kobal) reported that Cuba is now among the Latin American countries which are playing an outstanding role in fishing activities and that USSR investments in Cuba have been increased on the multilateral cooperation between the two states. He also said that the Soviet Union is giving solidarity aid to the Cuban people, which is clearly demonstrated in research work on fishing areas, training of cadres and exchange of experiences between the two nations' fishermen.

MEETING WITH USSR ON NICKEL INDUSTRY ENDS

FL020014Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The seventh working session of the Cuban-Soviet bilateral group for the rehabilitation and modernization of the two producing Cuban nickel enterprises in Nicaro and Moa has concluded after 2 days of analysis of the status of investment plans. The delegations were headed by Vladimir Kostin, USSR deputy minister of nonferrous metallurgy, and Manuel Aguilera, Cuban first vice minister of mines and geology.

It was also agreed to sign a protocol in Havana on the work of the bilateral group for the nickel industry. The protocol will remain in effect until the eighth session is held.

SOVIET OFFICIAL TOURS MATANZAS GOVERNMENT OFFICES

FL041846Y Matanzas Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Igor Pagosov, deputy chairman of the USSR central statistical administration, has visited the delegation of the State Committee for Statistics in Matanzas Province. The distinguished visitor toured that organization's departments and computer center and exchanged experiences with the members of the managing council of this organization and listened to a communique which was read in the name of the workers by Joaquin Mestre.

Pagosov arrived accompanied by Fernando Gonzalez, vice president of the State Committee for Statistics of our country, and was received by Jesus Castro, delegate to this organization in Matanzas.

PINEIRO RECEIVES DELEGATION OF NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS

FL052322Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1905 GMT 5 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Manuel Pineiro Losada, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of its America Department, has received a delegation of the North American Indian Movement. During the meeting, which was held at the PCC Central Committee headquarters in a friendly atmosphere, the members of the North American delegation explained the situation being endured by Indians in the United States.

CAPE VERDE MINISTER VIEIRA CONCLUDES VISIT

FL041722Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Herculano Vieira, minister of transport and telecommunications of Cape Verde Islands, has returned home after a 7-day stay in Cuba in response to an invitation of our country's transportation minister. He was seen off by Antonio Enrique Lusson, member of the PCC Central Committee and transportation minister, and other government officials.

Vieira expressed gratitude for the demonstrations of friendship, cordiality and affection he received during his stay in our county.

HUNGARIAN WORKERS' MILITIA DELEGATION VISITS STEEL PLANT

FL301233Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Nov 78 FL

[Text] Maj Gen Arpad Papp, member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Central Committee and chief of that country's worker militia, has visited the Jose Marti iron and steel plant, which is the former Antillana de Acero. The Hungarian military chief was accompanied by delegation heads and by Col Pedro Alter, chief of civil defense national staff. The delegation headed by Maj Gen Arpad Papp is visiting our country in response to an invitation from the PCC Central Committee.

RECEPTION OF IRAQI DELEGATION BY RODRIGUEZ REPORTED

FL042243Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2132 GMT 4 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, today held talks with the Iraqi delegation which attended the 14th Congress of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers. The Iraqi delegation is headed by (Moayad 'Abd Dullah), president of the Iraqi Workers' general trade union and member of the workers' directorate in the regional command of the Ba'th Socialist Party. Also participating in the meeting, which was held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, were Anwar Sabri, ambassador of the Republic of Iraq to Cuba, and Dr Rodrigo Alvarez Cambra. During the talks aspects dealing with the two countries' labor movements, the 14th labor congress and other topics of mutual interest were discussed.

ECUADOR

BALLEN, ROLDOS INTERRUPT FOREIGN TOURS, RETURN HOME

PA031445Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 3 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Quito--Two presidential candidates, Sixto Duran Ballen and Jaime Roldos Aguilera, have returned to the country from a tour of the United States, Canada, and several European countries. Duran visited the United States and Canada, while Roldos toured the United States and several European countries.

Duran Ballen rejected the maneuvers to annul the 16 July elections and announced that he will interrupt another trip abroad to continue participating full-time in the process for the return to constitutional order. Ballen announced that he will address the nation to express his position concerning the latest political developments.

In a wire to his running mate, Jose Icaza Roldos, Duran Ballen reiterated his decision to continue in contention within the framework of honor and dignity which he imposed from the moment he accepted his presidential nomination. In his message to Roldos, the candidate also expressed optimism for his victory in the second electoral round in April 1979.

Meanwhile, the other presidential candidate, Jaime Roldos Aguilera, is expected to arrive in Guayaquil today, interrupting his tour of the United States in view of the political crisis generated by the reticence of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal to proclaim the results of the 16 July elections.

Roldos left for Europe and the United States in October. He decided, however, to interrupt his tour to return to the country in view of the current political situation. He will be greeted at the Guayaquil airport by a large gathering of his supporters.

Roldos Aguilera won first place in the 16 July elections. His victory, however, triggered strong opposition which, according to the Concentration of Popular Forces, is bolstered by the Electoral Tribunal.

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL PASSES DECISION ON TO GOVERNMENT

PA051536Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 5 Dec 78 PA

[Text] After a week lost in discussions, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal in the past few hours decided to place a draft decree in the hands of the governing military triumvirate that will facilitate the proclamation of the election results. The resolution was adopted by the tribunal after canceling the appointment it made with leaders of the legally recognized political parties. The Electoral Tribunal organization had invited the politicians to try to find a procedure for proclaiming the results. However, the public's criticism apparently moved the tribunal to suspend the meeting. The decision was reached in the tribunal's morning session, and after canceling the meeting with the politicians. News of the unexpected resignation of the secretary, Raul Garcia, who had been at the post since April 1977, was released shortly before.

The following is the justification given by the tribunal president, Gustavo Chavez, for the abrupt cancellation of the meeting with the representatives of political parties and the measures adopted:

[Begin Chavez recording] The secretary has given you the press release explaining the reasons why the Supreme Electoral Tribunal had to revoke the resolution of sitting as a general commission to hear the opinions of the political parties. Briefly, the reasons are two: The first is the fact that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal's invitations were not sent in time to several of the political parties.

The second is that some sectors interested in discrediting this organization distorted the purposes of the meeting, saying that the tribunal was not competent to make a pronouncement on the problem at hand, the promulgation of the results of the 16 July presidential elections. This has made many citizens, who are justly concerned, feel that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal may not have been able to do its duty.

The facts are different. The fact is that the tribunal cannot legislate. The tribunal does not have that legal power. The tribunal is obliged to apply the law. The elections law was not made by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, it was made by the Third Legal commission, appointed by the Supreme Council of Government. In view of this reality, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal reached the decision this morning of proceeding [words indistinct] and definitely, resolved to address itself to the Supreme Council of Government with a broad exposition of reasons asking the Supreme Governing Council--which is the only organization in a capacity to issue supreme decrees--to consider the possibility of issuing the supreme decree whose project we have submitted for consideration by the members of this important organization which rules the destiny of the nation.

This is the resolution adopted by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal. With this, the tribunal will immediately proceed to do what is necessary for calling the second presidential election round and calling for the members of the Chamber of Representatives so that the plan of legal reorganization will continue under the terms determined in Decree 2921.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] The issuance of a decree that will facilitate and make viable the tribunal's continuing with what I just said.

[Question] Can we then say goodby to fears that the plan of return will not be fulfilled?

[Answer] You can be sure of that. [end recording]

Roldos Claims Sabotage

PA051537Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 5 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpt] Jaime Roldos, the presidential candidate for the Coalition of Popular Forces, said in Guayaquil that the attitude of the majority of the members of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal is to sabotage the process of a return to consitutional order. He said they should act sincerely. If they are really coupists, they should stop using apparently legal subterfuges and a position which they should not have as members of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal.

Government Resolves Problem

PA070300Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2353 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 6 Dec (EFE)--The military triumvirate ruling Ecuador issued a decree today resolving the legal problem that had prevented the proclamation of the results of the first electoral round.

Candidates Jaime Roldos, of the Concentration of Popular Forces, and Sixto Duran Ballen, who represented a rightwing coalition, emerged as finalists in the second round of elections to be held on 16 July.

The government decree issued today reforms the electoral law and allows the Electoral Tribunal to proclaim the electoral results on the basis of a certification by the secretary.

It thus resolved the problem that [word indistinct] an obscure electoral law provision demanding that the proclamation be made by publicly reading the entire document on the vote-counting process, which includes some 1,400 pages.

Immediately after the proclamation, the tribunal must call for the second round of presidential and legislative elections on 8 April 1979.

GUYANA

CARICOM COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ENDS ITS MEETING

FL041120Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The 13th meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Caribbean Community--CARICOM--has ended in Georgetown with an official announcement that intra-regional trade is expanding. At the 2-day meeting in which ministers and top officials of the 12-member, English-speaking countries participated, several points were agreed upon which seem to confirm the optimism of the new CARICOM secretary general, Barbadian (Corin King), who has declared that trade levels began to rise this year and have now gained the volume that existed before the crisis.

THREE-MEMBER CAMBODIAN MISSION ARRIVES IN GEORGETOWN

PA300427Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0125 GMT 30 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Georgetown, 29 Nov (AFP)--A reliable source has reported that a three-member Cambodian mission arrived here today. The identity of its members is unknown. It is expected that the Foreign Ministry will issue a communique on the subject tomorrow. It is believed that the Cambodian Mission (?is seeking) Guyana's support in the face of its conflict with Vietnam.

MEXICO

CUBAN AMBASSADOR DENIES REPORT ON ARMS TO SANDINISTS

PA021826Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1759 GMT 2 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Dec (AFP)--Cuba's ambassador to Mexico Fernando Lopez Muino, denied here today that his country is helping the Sandinist guerrillas with arms and accused the United States of spreading this rumor. According to Muino, the U.S. Government is trying "to make believe that the people's protest against Anastasio Somoza is only the manifestation of one single party."

The ambassador made this statement during the embassy's commemoration of the 22d anniversary of the Cuban armed forces. The ambassador noted that his country only gives moral support to the Sandinists so as not "to obstruct or harm the movement" and because it respects the principle of self-determination of peoples. He stated that the Sandinists have trained themselves, just as the Cubans did in 1956 in Mexico.

BRAZILIAN INDUSTRY, COMMERCE MINISTER ARRIVES

PA061901Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0049 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 5 Dec (AFP)--Brazil intends to seek a reduction of shipping charges so that Mexico will be able to sell petroleum to that country at a price satisfactory to both. Brazilian Industry and Commerce Minister Angelo Calmon stated here today. The official arrived in this capital today for a 4-day official visit during which he will meet President Lopez-Portillo and officials of the state-owned "Mexican Petroleum" and the Finance secretariat.

Calmon said a mixed committee is currently studying the installation of minibuoys near the Mexican port of Coatzacoalcos (Gulf of Mexico) in order to supply large ships, thereby prompting a considerable reduction in the cost of oil. Moreover, he added that Mexico and Brazil are making important joint investments which will increase their trade exchange, which at present amounts to approximately $300 million.

Calmon noted that the Mexican-Brazilian rapprochement was intensified after the visit by Brazilian President Ernesto Geisel to that country last year. He affirmed that that cooperation will be intensified in trade as well as in the technological field.

Calmon said technological exchange with Mexico consists of, and will be extended to, petrochemistry, the steel industry, iron and sulfur mining, as well as the manufacture of heavy and light equipment.

He concluded by stating that Mexico and Brazil are looking for favorable markets for their exports and trying to eliminate imports from countries outside the Latin American region.

PARAGUAY

POLICE RELEASE TWO MORE POLITICAL PRISONERS

PY3011152Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 30 Nov 78 p 11 PY

[Text] According to the committee of churches, the release of two more political prisoners held at the seventh police precinct has been confirmed. They are Carlos Salaberry, detained in April 1976, and Gumersindo Britez, detained 10 months ago.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENTS SIGNED--The Paraguayan Government has signed an agreement with the Japanese Government by which Japan agreed to grant a loan of $2.2 million for an agricultural development program in the southern region. Another agreement was signed with Great Britain by which this country will continue to provide technical assistance for 3 years to the veterinary school of the National University. An agreement was also signed with France to promote and protect investments in the two countries. According to the agreement, the French investors must submit their proposal to the Foreign Ministry and the executive branch will authorize the investment. [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 30 Nov 78 p 9 PY]

JAPANESE LOAN--Japan has sent a note to the national government indicating that it is willing to grant a 7.5 billion yen loan--approximately $35 million--for the purchase of 3 seagoing ships, 34 barges and 5 tug boats for the merchant marine. [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 30 Nov 78 p 15 PY]